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A
True *and* Impartial
HISTORY
OF THE
CONSPIRACY
AGAINST THE
Person *and* Government
OF
King *WILLIAM* III.
Of Glorious Memory,
In the YEAR 1695.

BY
Sir RICHARD BLACKMORE, Kt. M.D.

L O N D O N,

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THE
PREFACE.



HISTORY is to Men of Contemplation, of the same Use, as Books of Precedents are to Men of Business, especially Legislatours, Judges and Advocates: Whenever any Things happen extraordinary they have Recourse to the like Events, that have occur'd in former Ages, and by duly considering and comparing Times and Circumstances, they are enabled to make a more solid Judgment concerning them. This has induced me to publish at this Time, the following Narrative to the World, after it has lain by me many Years neglected, and almost forgotten.

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The Occasion of Writing it was, that soon after the Plot against King *William's* Life was detected and disappointed, his Majesty having thought fit that a True and Impartial Account of it should be made Publick, and having left it to the Lord Keeper *Sommers*, and the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, to appoint the Person that should draw it up, I was sent for by the Lord Keeper, and was by that Great Man engaged in this Undertaking. The better to enable me to go through with it, I was admitted to several Conferences with the Noble Lords abovenam'd, and with the Earl of *Portland*, who having the first Notices of the Conspiracy, was acquainted with the Steps taken in it, before it was made known to the other two : And I was also furnished from the Secretary of State's Office, with Authentick Copies of the several Depositions and other Papers, that I have thrown together and printed at the End of this Narrative, as Vouchers of the Facts recited in it, referring the Reader to them for his further Satisfaction, that the Thread of the Discourse might not be interrupted.

This short History having been perused and amended by the Lord Keeper, and the Duke of *Shrewsbury*, and having undergone a second Correction by his Grace, was in a few Weeks compleated and ready for the
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Prefs. But upon what Views and Reasons of State, I cannot pretend to determine, the Duke thought fit to delay the Publication of it so long, that the Negotiations for a Treaty of Peace with *France* intervening, it was then judged improper to let it go abroad.

But I am now prevailed upon to make this Narrative Publick, not only because it is in it self a curious piece of History, at least, as to a great Part of it, and back'd with the Authority of sufficient Vouchers: But because it is of Weight and Importance to all, who wish well to the Liberties of *Great Britain*, and the Reform'd Religion; and may be of great Use to many discontented Men at this Time, to make them beware of diminishing the Honour of the King, and speaking reproachfully of his Person, or his Administration; lest they encourage Popish Bigots, and Protestant Jacobites, to attempt the Subversion of the present Government, the Overthrow of our Constitution, and even the Life of his Majesty, by the same Steps and Motives that encourag'd some of the Conspirators to solícite and assist a Foreign Invasion, and others to assassinate King *William* of Glorious Memory, that by these execrable Means they might re-establish a Popish Prince upon the Throne.

It is true, the far greatest Part of King *William's* disaffected Subjects, who labour'd

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to disturb the Government, and take off the Affections of the People from his Majesty and his Ministers, did not design a Change of Masters, and the Restoration of the late King *James* ; nor did they believe that while they vented their Spleen and Passion against the Administration, they were really bringing Things to Extremity, and arming Seditious and bloody-minded Men, against the King's Life, or his Government ; or that they were either running the Nation into the sad Calamities of a Civil War, or the inexpressible Misery and Confusion, that must inevitably have attended the coming back of an exasperated Popish Prince, by the Assistance of a Foreign Army. But tho' this was not their Design, yet by their violent Discontents and turbulent Behaviour, by their calumniating and misrepresenting the King, and his Friends, with all the Arts that ingenious Malice could suggest ; and by inveighing in such a licentious Manner against the Administration, as no Government before, and none but the present, would ever endure, they greatly contributed to the black Conspiracy. For as by these Ways they dishearten'd his Majesty's Friends, and reduc'd the Zeal and Loyalty of many, to a cold Indifference ; so they animated and encourag'd designing Men, who intended much more than the Body
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of the Malecontents imagin'd, even to overthrow the Government it self; and were ready to believe, that during these Heats and Disturbances, occasion'd by restless Spirits, a fair Opportunity was offer'd them to execute their treasonable Purposes; hoping while the Nation was involv'd in such popular Discontents, they might without great Difficulty succeed in their detestable Enterprize. Thus tho' the greatest Part themselves did not intend to go such great Lengths, yet by going so far as they did, they embolden'd the Conspirators to form their Tragical Scheme; which had taken Effect, had not Divine Providence, that had so often before interpos'd, for the Preservation of this Nation, in a wonderful Manner, defeated the Execution of it, when it was brought to Perfection, and ripe for the Birth.

And as the malignant Calumnies, groundless Suggestions, and bitter Invectives, spread abroad with unwearied Diligence, in all Places, to the Prejudice of the Government, produc'd such a Temper and Disposition in the People, as seem'd to threaten the Government with an Insurrection; so was it an Encouragement and Temptation to the Conspirators, not only to promote an Invasion from abroad, but likewise to form their Design against the King's

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Life ; by administring Grounds of Presumption, that the disaffected Party would not lay the King's Death greatly to Heart ; but that on the contrary, they would feel a secret Satisfaction, that the great Obstacle of their Wishes was taken off ; and be well enough pleas'd with the barbarous Fact, while themselves were excus'd from being active in it.

It is therefore the Duty of the Subjects of *Great Britain*, in this present Conjunction, when our Circumstances too much resemble those in King *William's* Reign, to beware of spreading seditious Reports, and propagating the Belief of imaginary fantastick Dangers to the Diminution of the King's Honour, and the weakening of his Government. It is highly reasonable, not readily to take upon Trust, Misrepresentations and Reproaches from his Majesty's Enemies ; nor hastily to swallow down malicious Slanders, devis'd by furious Party-Men, and vented by vehement Agitators, that run into all Companies to vilify the King's Person, and blacken his Ministry : For should they favour and encourage, or not resent and oppose such disloyal Reflections and seditious Discourses, that inflame the People and weaken the Credit of the Government, may not such a Conduct, should it generally obtain, by making the King's Enemies

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mies believe that the People are generally disaffected, stir up some of the most Profligate and Daring of them, to attempt Crimes that one cannot think of without Horrour? Such was the real Occasion and Rise of the bloody Combination against the Person of King *William*; whence it will appear, that all Conversation and Discourses, that wound the King's Reputation, are stain'd with Treason, as evidently tending to the Destruction of his Person and Government. For it is easy to see, that a Prince made odious and contemptible, will soon be remov'd from his Throne, when it shall be in the Power of the Leaders of the Malecontents, to bring about such a Revolution. Now to dissuade and deter the Subjects of *Great Britain*, from following the Steps of those disaffected Persons, who by their seditious and unbridled Speeches, utter'd against the King and his Ministers, gave Occasion to the Conspirators, to solicit an Invasion from abroad, and form a Design against his Life; which it is certain, the far greatest Part not only not intended, but abhor'd, I have at length published this History.

Good Heaven! who could have thought it possible, that the People of *Great Britain*, forgetting their great Danger and surprising Deliverance, should so soon relapse

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lapse into the former Infatuation, and be again carried away with the same Delusion? Who could have imagin'd that they would a second Time, in so few Years, be so abandon'd to Passion and Resentment, so hurried on by Revenge and Ambition, so deserted of Religion and Loyalty, and forsaken of Common Sense, that they should desperately run on the same Rocks and Shelves, which they have so narrowly and so lately escap'd? That they should so soon and so exactly imitate the turbulent and seditious Behaviour of the Malecontents in King *William's* Reign, which had almost ruin'd the Government, and undone their Country, by vilifying his Majesty's Person; condemning his Actions, and arraigning his Designs; by clamouring against the Conduct of his Ministers, and aspersing their Characters, in all Places and in all Companies; hoping by indefatigable Zeal, and assiduous Malice, to render their Sovereign despicable, and his Government hateful to the People; whose Passions they agitate and work up, by their virulent Reproaches and detestable Insinuations.

They will no doubt say what before I have said for them, that their Intention is not to depose their Sovereign, and set the Crown upon the Head of a bigotted Pretender; but they cannot be ignorant, that
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by fomenting Heats and Discontents, and alienating the good Opinion and Hearts of their Neighbours from his Majesty, they may as effectually ruin the establish'd Government, as if they ever so much design'd it : For by this Means they will raise a Spirit of Discord, which they will not be able to lay ; and the Event, which they did not intend, may in the mean time be brought about by the Enemies of the King, who will strike in with them in opposing his Administration, and distressing the Government, 'till they have carried Matters so far, that it will not be in the Power of the other Malecontents to stop their Progress where they intended. When the Flames of Sedition are begun among a People disaffected, have they Strength or Art to oppose and stop their Course, that they shall not advance beyond the Limits which they assign'd them ? When by the Violence of Publick Feuds and Animosities, they have broken down the Fences of the Government, and let in a Deluge of Disorder and Confusion ; can they prescribe Rules to the Torrent, and say to it, hitherto shalt thou go and no further ? They may as well attempt to compose the Uproar and Rage of the Sea, as to still the Madness of the People ; and as soon bridle the Whirlwind, and manage a Tempest, as govern the Passions

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Passions of a headstrong, turbulent Multitude ; should they not dismiss such a foolish Opinion, from the Observation of all Histories of this Nature ; particularly from the sad Example of our late Civil Wars, and the Disturbances in King *William's* Reign ? Were not Multitudes of Men, who were very active in those Troubles, and with great Zeal kindled, and by the same Means that are now us'd, propagated Publick Heart-burnings and Discontents ; over-reach'd and push'd on by crafty and designing Men, who laid hold on this favourable Opportunity, thus offer'd them, and managed the Heats and Passions of the People, 'till in one Instance they accomplish'd their wicked Purposes and in the other had effectually done it, had not Divine Providence interven'd and defeated them ? And though the Malecontents, who embark'd at first with them, detested the Event which was brought about, yet they suffer'd Things to go on, 'till the Conspirators had got into their Hands too great a Power to be controul'd, and hinder'd from executing their Designs. And this has ever been, and ever will be, the Issue in all Cases of this Nature ; when Matters will always be carried on, by Revengeful and Ambitious Leaders, beyond
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the Intention and Inclinations of the greatest Part of the Faction.

And this Observation, that the greatest Part of the People, who at first embark'd in Seditious Practices, purpose to stop short of those Tragical Ends, which however they are unwarily enabling others to bring about, is confirm'd by the memorable Example of King *William's* Parliament, presently after the intended Invasion, and the Assassination-Conspiracy, were discover'd: For notwithstanding before that Time, the King had lost the greatest Part of the Commons, yet no sooner was this horrible Treason made appear, but the Affections of those, who never design'd to bring Things to that Extremity, return'd to their Sovereign; who then recover'd such an Interest in the House, that his Ministers carried all Things by a great Majority: And it is to be hop'd, that now the People, who have been abus'd and misled, are convinc'd, that their Tumults and Disquiet have occasioned at this Time, the like unnatural and destructive Conspiracy, against his Majesty and his Government, in Order to bring into the Kingdom a Popish Pretender, with all the terrible Calamities, that are inseparable from that Event, it is, I say, to be hop'd, that upon sober Reflection, these Persons, imitating the Example of those
Gentlemen,

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Gentlemen, will return to their Loyalty and Affection to the Government, espouse its Interest and promote its Honour, with double Zeal and Industry.

I know that many discontented Persons declare that their Intention is not to overturn the Establish'd Government, nor to change Masters; but that they embroil the King's Affairs, revile and oppose the Men in Power; fill the Nation with Glamour and Confusion, to oblige his Majesty to dismiss his Ministry, with whom they are displeas'd; and the Removal of these Counsellors and Servants of State, will, as they pretend, give them Satisfaction: For, say they, it is with these Gentlemen, that abuse his Majesty and his People, and not with the King, that our Controversy lies; which is to Copy exactly the Example of the discontented Persons in King *William's* Reign; who said as much in their own Vindication, as the present angry and disaffected Men can do.

The Body of our present Malecontents affirm, that they bear no ill Will to his Majesty, but are satisfied he should Rule over them; and that they detest and abhor all Designs and Contrivances, that aim at the Subversion of his Government, and the Introduction of a Popish Pretender: The same Thing was pleaded by the former to
justify

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justify their Conduct, and excuse their disrespectful Speeches and seditious Actions. Are our present dissatisfied and clamorous Mutineers outwitted, drawn in, and carried on to further Lengths than they intended, by the Conspirators; who took hold of this favourable Season, to build upon the Foundation of Popular Inquietudes, their execrable Plot; and ingrafted their Treason on Publick Dissatisfactions? So their restless Predecessors, in that King's Reign, were manag'd and deluded by their Leaders, the King's implacable Enemies; who rais'd an unnatural and barbarous Scheme, upon the general Discontents of the Nation: Discontents which the Conspirators created, abetted, and fomented, to promote their wicked Purposes; and which lay conceal'd from the greatest Number of their Party, 'till it was too late to prevent them. It is observable, that there were three Sorts or Degrees of disaffected Men in King *William's* Reign; the first and the most numerous consisted of Persons, who had no Design or Inclination to dispossess the King, and to restore the Abdicated Prince, but they cherish'd Feuds and intestine Disorders; oppos'd the Ministry, and inveigh'd against the Court, to compel his Majesty to change his Servants, and put the Administration into the Hands of their Leaders.

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A second Rank went higher and resolv'd to take the Field and compass their Ends by Force of Arms ; and these were Promoters of the intended Insurrection and Invasion. But the Third and highest Rank were compos'd of Men of Violence and of a Sanguinary Temper, of whom some contriv'd and favour'd the execrable Plot against the King's Life ; while others not afraid of imbruing their Hands in Royal Blood, undertook the Execution. In like manner it is probable there will be found in the present Conspiracy, several Gradations ; some who only advanced so far as to excite Popular Jealousies and Discontents, without any Design to drive on to Uproar and Rebellion : Others that were contriving how they might by Violence overturn the Government : And a third Rank of detestable Villains, who dared to propose the most horrid and barbarous Attempts.

The Purpose of the greatest Part of our disaffected Men, as I have observ'd before, is to gaul and distress the present Government, and by that Means to necessitate the King, to change his Servants and Officers of State : But whence arises their Dissatisfaction and Clamour against the present Ministers ? Is it that during their Administration they promoted any Publick ill concerted Schemes, that have made these Men
uneasy,

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uneasy, and fill'd their Minds with Discontent ; particularly the imprudent Management of the *South-Sea* Company, which through the Weakness and Incapacity, or unsatiable Avarice of the Undertakers, favour'd by Men in Power, has involv'd the Nation in so much Confusion ? Is this, I say, the Cause of their Ill-Will, and Opposition to the Ministry ? But how unjustly are these Grievances charg'd upon the present Ministers ? One may discover a strong Inclination to Calumny and Defamation, and a violent Bent and Disposition to mistake, in such Persons, who cannot recollect, that the Men in Power, under whose Administration and Direction those false Steps were made, are dead and gone, or at least disgrac'd. And as none of those, who are at present at the Head of Affairs, can be justly charg'd with the Male-Administration of others, so some of them, who are now in Power, did to their great Honour oppose with much Strength of Reason, Spirit and Eloquence, the fatal Scheme of the *South-Sea* Company ; and therefore no National Grievance, or Miscarriages before their Time, can justly be imputed to their Advice or Conduct. It is certain that the late Men in Power left the Publick Affairs to the present Ministers encumber'd with many heavy Bur-

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dens, and involv'd in almost inextricable Difficulties; and to heal all the Breaches, and cure all the grievous Distempers of the Nation, when the Administration was committed to their Care, without any Complaints and Dissatisfactions of the People, was a Task unequal to the most consummate Wisdom, and the greatest Capacity and Application. Is it a just Objection against them, that they were not State-Surgeons, skilful enough to attempt, carry on, and compleat the Cure of a Nation deeply wounded by other Hands, without giving some Pain by their Remedies and Operations? Those Persons therefore must be given up to a Contempt of common Sense, and an Affectation of Blindness, or they must gasp after false Popularity, or feel a passionate Desire to embroil our Publick Affairs, who attempt to transfer the Actions of a preceeding Ministry to the present, and charge the late real or pretended Mismanagement of Affairs upon a new Set of Men, who were no more the Occasions of it, than their Accusers themselves. If the Predecessors of the present Ministers have eaten sower Grapes, must the Teeth of their Successors be set on edge? And should it be allow'd, that some false Steps have been made, and some Mistakes committed by them, since they

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they first were plac'd at the Helm; may not a just Apology be made for them from the foregoing Observation, that never any Men enter'd upon the Ministry, when the Government was more disconcerted and embroil'd and Publick Affairs were in a more perplext and inexplicable Disorder and Confusion? May not some undesign'd Miscarriages happen, notwithstanding the greatest Vigilance and the most careful Provisions should be employ'd to prevent them, in a Case where the Difficulties seem'd insuperable? For what Ministers, tho' endow'd with the greatest Capacity, Penetration and Foresight, are infallible?

But still the Ministers are unacceptable to you, and must be remov'd? But for what Reasons? Is it for their want of Abilities, Application, and Experience in Publick Business? This cannot be pretended; for the Gentlemen at the Head of Affairs, at least the greatest Part of them, have all those Endowments in an eminent Degree: And are the Men, whom you would advance to their Places, superiour to them in Ministerial Qualifications? Is it for want of Loyalty and sincere Attachment to the Interests of the Establish'd Government, which you desire may continue and prosper? This certainly cannot be alledg'd; on the contrary, it is for their Love to the King;

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and firm adherence to his Government, that they are revil'd, oppos'd, and hated by those Men, who are endeavouring to subvert the Civil Establishment, and introduce a Popish Pretender. There remains then but one more Reason, why you can desire the Change of the Ministry, and that is, that it may be plac'd in the Hands of the Leaders of your Party ; for if they are chang'd for others of the same Principles, you will continue dissatisfied : But still you would have your Friends, as you call them, in the Administration, because you then believe the great Places and Preferments will be shar'd among you ; and 'till that be done, your Murmurs and Discontents will never be pacified. Now to convince you of the Unreasonableness of this Desire, give me leave to expostulate thus with you : You declare, and I believe you are sincere, that you do not design or wish the Overthrow of the Government, and the setting of any other Person upon the Throne ; and this, notwithstanding all your Discontents, you must principally desire may be secur'd. Why then do you labour that these Ministers should be displac'd, that some of your Leaders may be intrusted with the Administration, since it is most evident, that the Gentlemen now in Power, are hearty Friends to the King and his Government ;
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and it is no less evident, that great Numbers of your Party are endeavouring to pull it down and set up another? Have they not betray'd and abus'd you in the most egregious manner, by forming and carrying on a Traiterous Design to overturn the Government, which is what you detest and abhor? and would you trust the Government, which you profess you earnestly desire may be supported and preserv'd, in the Hands of such, who in Contempt and Violation of solemn Oaths, and all religious Obligations, are conspiring to destroy it?

If you are sincere in your Declarations, that you heartily desire the Continuance, and not the Change of the Governours, Is it difficult to determine which Set of Men you should wish to be in Power; those who will strenuously labour to preserve it, and so maintain your Religious and Civil Liberties, and all your Rights and Properties, which you now enjoy, without Encroachment or Violation, notwithstanding some inferiour Objections you have against them, or those who endeavour to overturn your Civil Establishment, by bringing in a bigotted Pretender? This is so plain a Case, that it will admit of no Debate, and it is an Affront to good Sense so much as to deliberate upon the Choice.

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But perhaps you will still harp upon this String, and say that the Administration of Publick Affairs is not in the Hands of your Friends, and that is what you can never bear. But how can this be truly said? Are not those your greatest Friends, that support and maintain the Government, the Preservation of which you declare you heartily wish, as being well appriz'd of the Confusion and Calamities that must be the sad Consequences of its Ruin? Are not such Men, I say, your real Friends, and are not those as certainly your Enemies, who whilst you only aim at the Change of the Ministry, are taking Advantages of the Steps you make, to lead you on to a total Overthrow of the present Establishment? You are perhaps displeas'd that the Gentlemen now in Power acquire Estates and great Honours; and do you believe that those, whom you by a great Mistake call your Friends, will serve the Government out of pure Affection, and without any Eye to the main Chance? Will they be so self-denying as to have no regard to the Encrease of their Fortunes and Advancement of their Families? The contrary is out of Question; and why should they incur the Displeasure and envy of any, for doing what all, even their worthiest Predecessors, have done before, a *Walsingham* or a *Godolphin* now and then excepted,

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excepted, and what is no more than good Statesmen deserve, and very dearly earn ?

Besides, since you say your Scheme is not to remove your Sovereign from the Throne, but the Ministers from their Places ; and since you endeavour to disturb and distress our Governours, that for their own Quiet they may make you easy in this Point, let us suppose that you were gratified in this Desire, will not the discarded Ministers and their Friends have the same Reason to bear them out, if they in their Turn should use the same Methods to perplex and disquiet the Government, 'till the Ministers and their Friends were turn'd out of Publick Employments ? And after this manner our Publick Affairs will be still embroil'd, and the Government will have no Rest, nor can we ever hope for a settled and lasting Peace.

Consider further, that it is a Dictate of right Reason, that as of two good Things, the greatest, so of two Evils, the least is to be chosen : Now it is certain, that under this Administration you fully enjoy your Religion, and all your Civil Rights ; for surely you cannot believe that you have a Right to publick Places and Preferments by the Fundamental Laws of the Realm, and that your Title to Dominion, and the Administration of Affairs, is

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interwoven with the Constitution; and yet one might be tempted to believe something of this Nature, while you fly in the Face of all Governments that do not employ your Party in the principal Offices of State, and divide the Promotions among you: During this Ministry, I say, your Constitution is preserv'd unbroken, your Laws are unviolated, and your Properties secur'd, and the establish'd Government, which you say you like and wish well to, is supported and maintain'd; and on the other Hand, you undergo no Suffering, but that of being disappointed of those Places and Preferments, which you expected should have been put into your Hands. Now is not the loss which your selves, and all your Countrymen would incur, of all those essential Benefits and Advantages I have nam'd, or a great Hazard of losing them, a far greater Evil than your bare Exclusion from the Administration and Places of Profit? It is certain, as I observ'd before, that if your Leading Gentlemen, at least many of them, should be employ'd, they would betray and destroy our Civil Establishment; since they discover their Principles and Intentions, by actually engaging in a detestable Conspiracy against his Majesty's Person and Government: Now do you determine which of these two Evils is the least, and therefore to be chosen.

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Notwithstanding what I have urg'd, I am afraid you will not yet get the Places and Preferments out of your Minds; your Friends enjoy'd them during the Reigns of the two Kings, *Charles* the First and the Second; and having tasted the Sweetness of them so long, began to think they were intitled to them by Prescription, and that their Party, as the only Persons qualified for Publick Business, should inherit, by an uninterrupted Succession, all the Honourable and Beneficial Trusts. But if you will always insist upon the Distribution of the Places among you, before you will favour and assist the Government, consider that this is not to pay Obedience to the King, as your Sovereign, but as the Head of your Party, and to declare your Resolutions plainly not to serve any Prince, whom you cannot govern; or in other Expressions, that will not make you Viceroys and Rulers over him; for you do not reverence and obey him as the Supream Magistrate vested with Divine Authority, for then you would obey all Sovereigns without Distinction, but as the Minister of a Junto, and Vicegerent of a Faction.

When King *Charles* the Second had put your Party into high Stations in the Government, and divided among them all the Inferiour Places of Trust and Profit, this effectually

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fectually kept them in good Humour ; and now they were so fond and enamour'd of their Prince, that they never objected to him, so as to weaken their Affections, those Faults, which they would never endure in another, but upon the same Conditions. And now it was that Passive Obedience and Non-Resistance were Sacred Doctrines, and even Essential to Christianity. But in the Reign of King *James* this Position, which they declar'd they would never part with, was suspended and no longer in Force, while many of the greatest of the Party were embark'd in a Conspiracy against their Sovereign, which took effect, and left the Throne empty : And when King *William* fill'd it, this Doctrine seem'd still to be laid by, especially by those who abetted an Invasion, and intended to rise in Arms to depose their Prince. When Queen *Ann* came to the Crown, one would have thought this Doctrine should have reviv'd and flourish'd in its full Vigour ; but that Queen, before their Darling, having thought fit to chuse a Ministry which displeas'd them, fell into Disgrace, and lost the Favour of the Party ; nor was she able to recover it, but by dismissing a wise Council, an excellent Lord Treasurer, and a Victorious General, whose repeated Triumphs they were not able to bear, nor forgive,
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and by calling such Persons to the Administration, whom they approv'd ; and then the Doctrine of Passive-Obedience and Non-Resistance was restor'd, and took place for a few Years. But soon after King *GEORGE* was plac'd on the Throne, it was again put under Suspension, and now seems quite sunk and trampled under Foot with great Contempt ; nor is it ever like to rise again, 'till a Prince like King *Charles* shall sit upon the Throne, that is, one who will put into their Hands the Administration and all Posts of Honour and Profit.

But by this you plainly deprive the King of his Choice, and lay him under a Necessity of admitting none into his Service in Publick Affairs, but whom you approve. It is true, that when Queen *Ann* at the latter End of her Reign, remov'd her Ministers, and promoted such as you were pleas'd with, to their high Stations, upon a Report spread abroad that some Citizens had been so forward, as to advise the Queen not to change Hands, you exclaim'd against their Rudeness and Presumption, with the greatest Vehemence ; crying out, What do these Men mean ? What ! will they not allow the Queen to make Choice of her own Servants, a Privilege which all private Families have a Right to ? By which Example it is evident, that you allow'd the Queen

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a Liberty to chuse her Ministers ; but it is as evident that it was a Liberty with this Restriction and Limitation, that she should choose none but your selves ; for were not this the true Case, you would not raise such Clamours against the King, for taking upon himself to choose his own Servants, though they were not recommended or approv'd by your Party. I shall say no more upon this Subject in this Place, but refer the Reader to the Pages at the End of this Narrative ; which are as pertinent and seasonable in these Times, as they were in those when they were written.

To confirm more abundantly the Facts related in the following History, reference may be made to the Lord *Preston's* printed Papers, and the Tryals of the Persons, who were condemn'd and executed for this Conspiracy. And what particulars in this Narrative of Inferiour Moment, are not confirm'd by the Vouchers annex'd, I receiv'd from the Ministers of King *William*, whom I have above nam'd.



A
Plain and Impartial
HISTORY
OF THE
*Conspiracy against King WILLIAM
the Third, in the Year 1695.*



Plain and Impartial History of the late Traiterous Design, projected and carried on by some of his Majesty's Subjects, encourag'd by their Friends Abroad, who conspir'd together for the Destruction of his Sacred Person, and the Subversion of the Establish'd Religion, Laws and Liberties of these Kingdoms, is set forth in the following Pages; nor will

will any Thing of Importance occur in this Narrative; but what will appear undeniably true, either by the clearest Evidence that was ever produc'd on such an Occasion, or by the free and unconstrain'd Confessions of the Criminals themselves.

This Account is written not only to excite a due Admiration of so great an Example of the Almighty's Gracious Providence, by which this bloody Confederacy was detected, and his Majesty's Life and Government secur'd against the execrable Plots of his Enemies, which notwithstanding must be acknowledg'd to be a great Inducement to it, but that the Christian World may be fully convinc'd of the King's Justice, when they shall see with Horror by what dishonourable and barbarous Ways those Enemies had resolv'd to take him off, and overspread his Kingdoms with Ruin and Desolation.

And as there is just Reason to expect this good Effect abroad, so a great Advantage may be reap'd from it at Home, since it is reasonable to believe that when the People of this Kingdom shall see what terrible Dangers they have escap'd, and that in the Opinion of those, who most wish their Ruin, they cannot be destroy'd while his Majesty is safe, they will be establish'd in their Zeal and Loyalty to him, and united more firmly to one another for their mutual Defence and Security.

The Guilt of these Conspirators will be plac'd in so clear a Light, that even our greatest Adversaries, who disappointed of Success, will without Doubt labour

to evade the Shame, not being able by all their Artifices, which seldom fail them on such Occasions, to give any Turn to the Matter, by which the Force and Light of the Evidence may be eluded, must be compell'd to own the Fact to their everlasting Shame and Confusion.

This monstrous Conception, as is usual in the like Cases, did by various Steps receive its Shape, Vigour and Maturity: The Seeds of Sedition, which had been early and plentifully sown in the Nation, were attended with Industry and Application, and cherish'd with warm and active Influences, before they attain'd such a prodigious Growth; for the first Uneasiness and Discontents of the Faction, requir'd some Time to be improv'd and ripen'd into the malignant Temper of Traytors and Ruffians, who without Remorse might imbrue their Hands in their Sovereign's Blood, and give up their Country to inexpressible Calamities.

When the late King *James* with his Popish and Arbitrary Counsellors had fully purpos'd the Subversion of the ancient Government and the Extirpation of the Establish'd Worship of these Realms, and by Degrees had made so considerable a Progress, that they seem'd almost sure of compassing their wicked End, the great Benefactor of Mankind, out of Commiseration to these Kingdoms, was pleas'd to interpose in a surprizing Manner, between a suffering People, and the inexorable Invaders of their Religion and Liberty. In this Extremity of Affairs he rais'd up for us a glo-

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rious Deliverer, his present Majesty, who ascended the Throne, amidst such universal Applauses and Expressions of Joy, as perhaps have no Example in former Ages ; nor could it be imagin'd that the Pleasure and Satisfaction of the People could be less general or more moderate, to see their Deliverer become their King, when they had invited him to undertake their Defence, with such importunate Entreaties, and expected him with such Impatience, as could not proceed but from the highest Discontents under the former Reign, and the deepest Sense of their approaching Ruin. No Revolution was ever brought about with less Effusion of Blood, none having ever met with less Opposition. Our Oppressors, and with them our Fears in a few Days fled from the Presence of our great Deliverer. It is very remarkable, and will be ever look'd upon as a great Proof of the good Nature of the *English*, that notwithstanding there is nothing more common in Foreign Nations, than for those who prevail in all such Changes of Government, to inflict the deepest Marks of their Resentment and Revenge on the conquer'd Party ; yet in this Revolution the Adherents of the late King could not complain of any Insults and Violence from the People, tho' they were become universally odious, and had by their insolent Behaviour and unsufferable Violations of our Rights, highly incens'd the whole Nation against them.

And as they escap'd the usual Effects of Outrage and popular Fury, so were they likewise treated by his Majesty, both before and after his Accession to the
Throne,

Throne, with all the Gentleness that was ever shewn by a merciful Prince. Instead of prosecuting them with the utmost Severity of Justice, for breaking in upon our establish'd Constitution, he promoted and pass'd a general Act of Grace, in which very few were excepted, and those few never prosecuted.

This extraordinary Clemency of the King, and Good Nature of the People, exceeded the utmost Expectations of the Servants of the late King *James*; for at the Beginning of this happy Change, and during the Session of the first Parliament, they lay under the greatest Consternation, and were terrified with continual Apprehensions of being call'd to an Account for their Crimes and Misdemeanours in the late Reign. They would then have sat down contented with Safety and Protection under the present Government, while they did not aim at Power, but Impunity. This was indeed at first their Temper, and it was Matter of great Joy and Satisfaction to them, that they had thus escap'd with their Lives, Liberties and Estates, which was much more than they had Reason to expect. But this Disposition was of no long Continuance, for presently after the Dissolution of that Parliament, their Fears of publick Displeasure being remov'd, they began to think well of their Condition, conceiv'd Hopes of the late King's returning to the Throne, and enter'd upon Designs for accomplishing of it.

Of these Persons disaffected to his Majesty and his Government, there were two Sorts, Papists and Protestants; the Papists, who were in the Reign of the late King advanc'd to Employments in the Army, enjoy'd Places of Honour and Profit in the State, and flatter'd themselves with the Hopes of establishing their own Religion, were enrag'd when they saw the Scene so suddenly chang'd, and their Hopes blasted by an unexpected Revolution.

As for the discontented Protestants, who were some of them of loose Lives, and great Indifference to any Religion, that they might share the Spoil and divide with the Papists the Profits and Preferments, united heartily with them in the last Reign; and others, who formerly express'd little Regard to the People's Rights, yet when those of the Church were also hazarded, together did indeed awaken to a lively Sense of their Condition, and made a very commendable Opposition and an honourable Stand. But many of them not being acquainted with our Histories and the *English* Constitution, or intoxicated with wild and extravagant Notions about the Nature and Descent of the Regal Power, which they had cherished so long, that they became perfect Enthusiasts in Matters of Government, separated from the Body of the Church of *England*, upon this Account among others full as weak; that the Members of it paid Obedience to his Majesty and his Government. These unreasonable and obstinate Schismatics breaking off Communion with the Church, met for Religious Worship in Conventicles.

venticles, and unlawful Assemblies, such as themselves had often stiled, and such as theirs truly prov'd, the Rendezvous of dissaffected Persons, and the Nurseries of Rebellion. The Papists and such Protestants as these were inexpressibly disquieted at his Majesty's Accession to the Throne: But for their Consolation under such a surprizing Disappointment, they flatter'd themselves that his Government was but short-liv'd, and that by their Interest at Home and powerful Assistance from Abroad, they should soon see the late King come back in Triumph.

And now they began openly to express their Dissatisfaction, and to use all the Artifices, which their Wit and Malice could suggest, to alienate the Affections of the King's Subjects, and as much as possible to embroil his Affairs; and that they might facilitate the Restoration of the former King, they labour'd to weaken and distress the present Government by all the Obstructions they could lay in its Way.

Their Business was in all Places to run down and throw Contempt upon the Administration; to expose our Officers of State; to diminish and speak slightly of the King's Friends and Allies, and to magnify and extol the Power of his Foreign Enemies. They imputed also with malicious Art to ill Conduct and Mismanagement, our Misfortunes and inevitable Miscarriages, Miscarriages which they themselves occasion'd by cutting short the Sinews of War, and clogging the Wheels of the Government, that they might frustrate his Majesty's great Designs, and then re-

proach him for what themselves had contriv'd and brought about for that very Purpose.

'Tis true, the Conspirators here had some Dependance on the Number of their Party, which notwithstanding was not so great as they imagined ; but their chief Confidence was built upon the Expectation of Assistance from Abroad, their Party here being too inconsiderable to make any Attempt upon the Government.

And at this Time so formidable was the Growth of *France*, with whom we were then actually engag'd in War, while constant Successes attended the Arms of her enterprizing King, that She justly gave Umbrage to all her Neighbours, and therefore the Malecontents chiefly depended upon the Power of this great Potentate for the Subversion of our present Establishment, and the bringing back of the late King. For this Reason in all Companies, they magnified the Wisdom and Strength of *France*, and as much lessen'd and debas'd that of his Majesty and his Allies, by which they hop'd to intimidate their Countrymen, and sink the Reputation of his Majesty's Arms.

At this Time as the King had the Weight of the *French* Power to contend with, which was look'd upon as more than sufficient to overwhelm him, so to their great Joy the Malecontents saw him entangled in Domestick Difficulties, which they judg'd inextricable. The Rebellion in *Scotland* had a dangerous Aspect, but the War in *Ireland*, they believ'd insuperable, that whole Kingdom, excepting *Londonderry*,
being

being in the Hands of the Enemy, and not to be reduc'd, but at a great Expence of Blood and Torture. They doubted not but that a terrible War Abroad, and a raging Rebellion at Home, would infallibly crush our Restorer, and sink a Government so lately settled; for they knew that his Majesty could not be in *Flanders*, *Ireland*, and *Scotland* at the same Time, and yet they thought his Affairs must of Necessity be ruin'd without his Presence in all those Places.

Nor did they want Malice or Industry to represent to the People all these Difficulties and Dangers in the most formidable Shape, to terrify them from assisting a sinking Government as this was represented, either by fighting for its Preservation in the Field, or contributing their Money for the Encouragement of those, who did so. Thus they labour'd with indefatigable Diligence to weaken his Majesty's Credit and Reputation with his Subjects, and endeavour'd to drive them to a perfect Despair by possessing them, as far as they were able, that it was not possible for the Government to support it self under the various Burdens that encumber'd it.

And hoping now to accomplish their mischievous Designs, they carefully represented to the Ministers of *France*, what Advantages were at this Time in their Hands, and how favourable the Season was during the King's Absence in *Ireland*, to attempt the Overthrow of the Government; and this was done with that Success, that *France* was prevail'd with, to surprize us this Summer in the Channel with a stronger Fleet,

than it was thought possible for that Nation to have furnish'd out. It is true, the Diaffected ever discovered a barbarous and unnatural Delight at the Destruction of their Countrymen, when at any Time their Enemies gain'd the least Advantage over them; no News being ever receiv'd with more Pleasure, than the Overthrow of the *English*, and the Victories and Successes of *France*: But never was any Misfortune that befell us, receiv'd with that particular Satisfaction and exquisite Rellish as the Dishonour that happen'd to *England* this Summer, from the Earl of *Torrington's* Defeat by the *French* Fleet before-mention'd. This they thought most nearly concern'd our Reputation as well as Safety, and therefore it was not possible for them to dissemble their immoderate Joy at the News, that the Naval Strength of *France* was this Campaign superiour to that of *England*.

Who can forget the Threats and insulting Expressions of the Faction, when the *French* had thus prevail'd? How was the Wind curs'd that took them short, and prevented the Destruction of our Royal Navy at *Spit-head*? They express'd the like becoming Satisfaction, when they afterwards heard that *Mons, Charleroy* and *Namur* were reduc'd by *France*; nor could they forbear their Triumphs, when they heard that any of our Merchants or Convoys fell into the Power of the Enemy. Thus were they contented to sacrifice to their Resentments, the Treasure and Blood of their Native Country, and to revenge themselves on the De-

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the PLOT in 1695. 11

liverer of *England*, were satisfied to give up the Liberties of all *Europe*.

This unexpected Advantage of the *French* at Sea so much encouraged the Malecontents, and so dispirited his Majesty's good Subjects, that nothing less than the Signal Victory at the *Boyne* had been sufficient to have stopp'd the growing Mischief. The Success of that Famous Action proved indeed a very seasonable Remedy, and had a remarkable Influence in abating the Arrogance of the Faction, confirming the King's Friends, and determining the Doubtful to their Duty.

The Disaffected finding Things thus settled and composed, far beyond their Expectation, by his Majesty's prosperous Campaign in *Ireland*, and being still furiously bent upon bringing about their wicked Designs, soon after, as it is well known, set on Foot a direct Negotiation with their Friends at *St. Germans*, to concert Measures, and form Designs against the Government. This Traiterous Commerce was undertaken by the Lord *Preston* and his Accomplices; and though he, and some other of the Conspirators, by falling into the Hands of Justice, were prevented from carrying it on, yet others of the Faction succeeded to the Employment, and not long after transacted with the Court above-named, to bring about an Invasion of *England*. *

* See Paper 3d, Paper 7th, Paper 11th, and Paper 13th, and 14th.

The *French* King, and his Friends, seeing his Majesty had with invincible Patience and Fortitude surmounted so many Difficulties, which in their Opinion, measuring his Strength by that of common Princes, would have certainly over-whelm'd him, and observing that now he shone forth with stronger Light, having scattered the Clouds, that obscured him at his first rising, and finding that the *English* were generally well pleased with a Monarch that was truly Martial, and a zealous Protector of the Protestant Interest, Qualities, which they long wished to see, either together, or but so much as singly upon the Throne, and inferring thence, that there was little Hope remaining, that the Body of the Nation would ever invite the late abdicated King to return, they agreed to impose him on the Nation by Force, whom of Choice the *English* were never likely to receive.

It is no wonder that Monarch was willing to be at any Hazard or Expence to restore the late King *James*, when he found such a vigorous Opposition from his Successor, who had now put himself at the Head of the Confederacy, and added the Weight of *England* to support the Common Interest of *Europe*; he could not but express an ardent Zeal to divert the Arms of *England*, and crush a Prince, whose Illustrious Vertues, and Military Fame, were become very uneasy to him; for he could not but with Displeasure and Envy look upon the King of *Great-Britain*, as the most likely Person in the World,
not

not only to eclipse his Glory, but even to shake the Foundations of his Empire; and therefore he complied with the Sollicitations of the Malecontents, and while the King was absent in *Flanders*, resolved to make a Descent upon his Kingdom.

Accordingly in the Year 1691, a numerous Army was collected and drawn down to the Sea-Coasts near *La Hogue*, the late King being at their Head; a proportionable Number of Transports were provided, and all Things prepared for their Embarkation: And it is very observable, that *Granvall's* Design to assassinate his Majesty that Campaign in *Flanders* was concerted the same Summer, * in like manner, as this last Conspiracy against the King's Life was set on Foot at the same time with the intended Invasion, as will afterwards appear.

In the mean time the discontented Party here in all Places grew most audacious. They insulted the Friends of the Government, and reviled his Majesty, the Head of it, in so insolent a manner, as shew'd they looked upon Success as sure, and seemed transported with the greatest Joy, that in a few Days they should see this Kingdom involved in Blood and Confusion; being themselves ready to engage on the Side of a Foreign Army, and to mix with merciless Dragoons, and *Irish* Rebels, to ravage and destroy their native Country. As to the King, who was exposing his Person abroad to all the Dangers of

* See the Printed Account of *Granvall's* Conspiracy.

a raging War, they doubted not of barring for ever his Return to his Throne and Government, and by this Means of letting in upon us a Deluge of the most dreadful Calamities that ever befell an unhappy People.

But it pleased God, by whose Gracious Care and Watchful Providence, his Majesty and his Government had been hitherto preserved, to dispel on a sudden this Storm which hung so frightful over us, and by defeating in a Moment all their mighty Preparations, in a terrible manner to rebuke the Pride and Confidence of our Enemies. The Foreign and Domestick Conspirators, who depended on the Conduct and Power of the *French* Monarch, as such as might warrant the Success of all their Undertakings, were amazed at the unexpected Miscarriage of their Design, when Admiral *Russel* prevailing over the *French* Fleet, that was prepared to convoy their Transports, burnt such Numbers of their greatest Ships on their own Shore, as soon put an End to the Expectations, which the Conspirators had conceived from this intended Expedition. But tho' it damp'd their present Alacrity, it did not in the least abate their Malice, nor divert their Designs against the King and Kingdom.

The next Incident which reviv'd their Hopes, was the Loss of the *Turkey* Fleet, which fell into the Enemy's Hands. The welcome Tidings of this Miscarriage, as likewise of our want of Success in *Flanders*, mightily cheer'd and supported the Spirits

rits of the Party, while they imagined that these Misfortunes would make such a deep Impression on the People, and produce such a general Disaffection, that the Parliament upon it, would refuse any longer to raise Supplies for carrying on the War.

Grown confident in this Belief, that the Progress of the Enemy's Arms in *Flanders*, and the great Expence of Treasure, that must needs be demanded to supply our Army abroad, together with the inevitable Damage we sustained in our Trade, would in a short time so impoverish the Nation, and render the People so uneasy, that they would be necessitated to make Peace with *France*, by recalling the late King, they fell to work in all Places, and in all Companies to aggravate our Losses, to represent our Taxes as an insupportable Burden, and to revile the Government for not finding out Ways to preserve it self at a cheaper Rate. They envy'd to his Majesty the Bounty of his Parliaments, who gave him such large, yet necessary Supplies, for the Protection of his Kingdom, chusing rather to enable the King to carry on the War Abroad, than to feel the sad Effects of it in our own Bowels. The Faction from this hop'd they might gain a great Advantage, by turning the necessary Means of our Preservation, to an Occasion of our Ruin; hence they confidently assured the People, that the Government must of necessity sink under its own Weight, and that the Greatness of our Expence must unavoidably

voidably prove our Destruction. They never ceased from declaiming on this Popular Subject, and gauling the People in this tender Part, hoping to make them weary of a Government that was represented so burdensome, and at last to persuade them to let in the Deluge, rather than to be at the Expence of maintaining their Banks.

It cannot be denied, that the Government which had such great and various Difficulties to struggle with, both from Foreign and Domestick Enemies, required for its Support more than ordinary Supplies; and our Losses at Sea, during a War with *France*, were in a great measure unavoidable; but though the Malecontents, by these Topicks, made a great Impression upon some weak Minds, who felt too sensibly their Pains, but did not consider the Consequences that must attend the desperate Method propounded by the Malecontents for their Cure, yet the Body of the Nation had a much better Sense of Things, and were pleased rather to undergo these moderate Sufferings, while they enjoyed their Religion, Laws and Liberties, than to send again for their old Oppressors, esteeming their present Burden not to be compared with that intollerable Weight of Misery, which would certainly follow upon such a Change of Government. The People therefore, and their Representatives, resolved to continue the War at any Rate, while the Last gave Supplies bountifully, and the First paid them cheerfully, as seeing it absolutely necessary to their Preservation.

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When the Malecontents saw themselves frustrated in these Expectations also, to promote their Designs and express their Hatred to the Government, they set themselves more than ever to foment Factions, Jealousies, and Discontents; and by odious Misrepresentations, infamous Libels, and groundless Slanders, they strove with unparallel'd Application, in all Places, to spread a rebellious Ferment; and where they saw the Flame at any time kindled, they continually fann'd and cherish'd it with virulent Discourses and Invectives. It was for this End that they rais'd so loud a Clamour, when a great Part of his Majesty's Fleet was, for just and necessary Reasons, sent into the *Mediterranean*; while to fill the Minds of the People with unquiet Apprehensions, they told them, that the Strength of the Nation was now sent away, and expos'd to the utmost Hazard, and in the mean time our Coasts were unguarded, and our Commerce unprotected.

To stir up the People to an Insurrection private Clubs and Cabals were appointed to concert their seditious Schemes, tumultuous Meetings were openly held, to show their Confidence, affright the Friends of the Government, and keep up the Hearts of their Party. The present Establishment was afresh insulted with unsufferable Insolence; our Parliaments traduc'd and our Ministers expos'd and made contemptible. They treated his Majesty with unheard-of Arrogance, inventing Stories at Pleasure, and sticking at no Falsehoods, tho' in themselves ever so
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ridiculous and incredible, if they had the least Hopes to fasten by such Means any Dishonour on his Majesty, or render him to his Subjects either hateful or despicable. They resolv'd, if possible, to weaken his Credit and Confidence with his People, by reproaching him as an Enemy to the Church of *England*, a Church, which he had so lately fav'd, and still defended at the Hazard of his Life, and to protect which he had so often engag'd his Sacred Word and Promise, a Word, that might be taken, and a Promise, that might be rely'd on. They aspers'd him as an Enemy to the *English* Nation, after all that he had done for its Deliverance, and while he was undertaking with so much Toil and Hazard to his Royal Person, to guard the Kingdom against the powerful Arms of *France*.

The crafty Agitators drew in divers of the warmer, who are usually the weaker Sort, by chimerical and unreasonable Fears of Presbytery and a Commonwealth. These two Words, as if they carried some potent Charm, like some Notes of Musick, that strangely affect particular Persons, and as certain Accents vehemently disturb and enrage Lunatics, had an unaccountable Influence upon many, who fear'd themselves with imaginary and phantastick Terrors; and without the least colour of Reason, grew giddy with their own groundless Fears, and from thence concluded that the Church and Monarchy were both ready to fall.

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Though his Majesty had been long inform'd of their Seditious and Disloyal Practices, yet he still endeavour'd by his Moderation and unwearied Patience, to reclaim his disobedient Subjects, and compose their turbulent and unquiet Spirits : And though he had great Reason to believe, that his most Gracious Pardon, and his easy and gentle Government, might by Degrees soften these obstinate Enemies of their Country, and reduce them to a Sense of their Interest as well as Duty, or at least bring them to a peaceable Disposition ; yet nothing is more evident, than that these indulgent Methods, which they perversely interpreted sometimes as Supineness, sometimes as Impotence, produc'd a very contrary Effect. From the Moderation of the Government, they gather'd Courage and Vigour to oppose it, while they grew confident by their Ease, and presumptuous by Impunity. Such was their Indignation to be defeated in their Designs against their Country, that all Advances of Kindness towards them were made in vain ; the Faction continued sower and inconsolable, *England* was delivered and protected against its Oppressors ; and this Misfortune they were not able to bear.

On the Death of the Queen of ever Happy Memory, the Faction conceiv'd fresh Hopes after their several Disappointments. This Misfortune to the King and Kingdom they concluded must be attended with Consequences as would highly favour their Designs against the Government : And shortly after it had pleas'd the Divine Providence to afflict
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the Nation, by taking away this invaluable Blessing, they were encourag'd to enter upon Designs to deprive us of the King also; and the same Week, wherein his Majesty had given them the fullest and most extensive Pardon, that was ever known, these ungrateful Men were contriving to seize upon his Royal Person; * for about this Time several Meetings and Consultations were held by Captain *Chernock*, Captain *Porter*, Captain *Waugh*, Major *Matthews*, Mr. *Donelaugh*, Mr. *Goodman*, and Sir *William Perkins*, to settle the Method of executing this their Design; and the Places where these Conspirators, or the greatest Part of them met, were Mr. *Goodman's* House in *Brownlow-Street*, the Chocolate House in *St. James's Street*, and the *Fountain Tavern* by the *Temple-Gate*.

And that they might quiet their Minds, which it seems were not perfectly deliver'd from all Sense of Guilt and Horror, at such a barbarous Enterprize, they sent over to solicit the late King *James*, to grant them a Commission, which they flatter'd themselves would be enough to authorize the Villany. But it seems it was not thought fit to grant any such Commission at that Juncture, in which Things did not perhaps appear ripe enough for their Purpose; at least it was so delay'd, that the Conspirators seem'd uneasy to be held so long in suspense, and therefore resolv'd forthwith to execute their Design, notwithstanding their

* See Paper 11th.

Expectations of a Commission from *St. Germain's* were disappointed: And now howsoever weak and impracticable it might seem, they projected a Design to attack the Guards, seize the King, and forthwith hurry him to *Deal*, where a Vessel was to be provided to receive, and thence carry him into *France*; and in Case of Resistance, they purpos'd to destroy him, and then pretend it was done by a Random Shot: And in order to this they proceeded so far, as to view the Ground about *Turnham-Green*, and to fix on a Place proper for their Design; but they had not Time enough to compleat this Affair before the King embark'd for *Flanders*, and thereby oblig'd them to defer their intended Villany, 'till his Return in the Winter. *

But the Conspirators could by no Means sit down satisfied with being idle in the mean Time, and therefore many Meetings and Consultations were held in various Places; where it was consider'd and debated, what were the most proper and expeditious Means of restoring the late King: † And it was agreed on at a Meeting at the *Old King's-Head* in *Leadenhall-Street*, where were then present, the Earl of *A----*, the Lord *M-----*, Sir *John Femwick*, Sir *John Friend*, Mr. *Goodman*, Captain *Chernock*, and Captain *Porter*, that a confiding Messenger should be sent to *St. Germain's*, who should perswade their late Sovereign to procure ten thousand Men; eight thousand Foot, a

* See Paper 11th. † See Paper 2d, and Paper 11th.

thousand Horſe, and a thouſand Dragoons, in order to make a Deſcent upon *England*; with which Auxiliary Forces, the Conſpirators, who were then ready to riſe in Arms and join them, undertook to reduce theſe Kingdoms, and ſet the Crown again upon the late King's Head. The Perſon choſen out for this Errand to *St. Germains*, was Mr. *Chernock*, who expreſs'd his Willingneſs to undertake the Traiterous Intercourſe, provided they would let him know what Affurances he might give the late King of their readineſs to ſerve him, in Caſe he came with ſuch a Power as they demanded. The Conſpirators thereupon unanimoſly aſſur'd him, that if the late King landed, they would ſerve him with two thouſand Horſe; *Chernock* thereupon reply'd, he would be the Meſſenger, but deſir'd they would give him another Meeting, that he might be ſatiſfied this was their ſettled and deliberate Reſolution, and ſuch as the late King might depend on. This was granted, and a ſecond Meeting appointed a few Days after at Mrs. *Mountjoy's* Houſe in *St. James's-Street*, where the Conſpirators met and renewed their Promiſes and Affurances, that they were ready to aſſiſt and join the late King with the abovemention'd Body of Horſe, in Caſe of an Invaſion: Upon which *Chernock*, a ſhort time after, went over into *France*, and communicated to the late King their Requeſt. But whether that Prince's Friends were diffident of the Intereſt and Strength of the Conſpirators, and not diſpos'd to give Credit to the Representations of a Faction, which

which had often deceiv'd them, a Faction, who, as Malecontents usually are, were vehement and importunate in their Applications, and indiscreetly eager and impatient of bringing about their Designs of overturning the Government which they hated, or whether they were willing to see the Issue of another Campaign, supposing if it prov'd successful, it would mightily facilitate their Invasion of *England*, it is certain, the Conspirators were told by the late King, that he was sensible of their Fidelity and Steadfastness in his Interest, for which he thank'd them; but as to the Assistance they desir'd him to procure, his Answer was, that the *French* King could not, at that Time, spare so great a Number of his Troops as they demanded. Thus the Invasion was deferr'd to a more favourable Season.

* In the mean time the treasonable Commerce went on with *St. Germans*; for which purpose they maintained Boats of their own on the Coasts of *Kent*; all Care was taken to support the Spirits of the Party; and all Artifices and Methods of Application were us'd to spread a malignant Ferment among the People, which might make them uneasy under the Government, and dispose them to a Change.

The Success of his Majesty's Arms, at the memorable Siege of *Namur*, was so far from discouraging them from carrying on their Conspiracy, that it seem'd rather to push them on to accomplish it with greater Expedition; for being jealous that the next Cam-

* See Paper 12th.

paign might still encrease the Reputation of his Majesty's Arms, and diminish that of his Enemies; they resolv'd to hasten the Execution of their Designs; so that the Fears they entertain'd of his Majesty's still getting greater Advantages in the Field, seem to have given Birth to the late intended Invasion and Assassination.

His Majesty's admirable Clemency and Patience was so long and so highly abus'd by these incorrigible Persons, that many of his Loyal Subjects were alarm'd, and grew uneasy, fearing the dangerous Effects that might proceed from this licentious and unrestrain'd Behaviour of the profess'd Enemies of the Government: Yet nothing could move his Majesty from his unalterable Resolution, of trying to the utmost these obstinate Men, by his usual Methods of Moderation and Forbearance, still hoping even to the last, that he might win them by his Goodness, without exerting his Power.

But all his gracious Indulgence was lost upon them, for they grew upon it more bold and daring, and with greater Heat and Impatience than ever, bestirred themselves to ripen their villanous Conspiracy. In Order to this, great Stores of Arms were bought up and conceal'd in convenient Places, * great Numbers of Horses were provided to mount their Troops, which they had list'd; Officers were appointed, and Commissions receiv'd from the late

* See Paper 2d. Paper 11. Paper 13th, and 14th.

King, by which pretended Authority they were to act. In such a Posture were their Affairs at Home. In the mean time, the traiterous Negotiation was maintain'd between the Conspirators and the late King. And at this time the *French* Court seem'd inclin'd to comply with their Desires, by lending the late King a good Body of his Troops. Messengers went to and fro with Pacquets of Letters to concert Affairs, and to give Intelligence of the Forwardness of the Invasion on the one Side, and the Insurrection of the other. For nothing can be more evident, than that a Design of bringing back the late King *James*, and with him all our former Fears and Calamities was early entr'd upon, and still kept on Foot among the Male contentents: The Fire still burn'd, tho' it did not always blaze out, but as Circumstances favour'd it, and as it was cherish'd with a greater Application, and the Addition of fresh Fuel.

Can any higher Example of Infatuation appear in Story than this, that Protestants should apply themselves to a Popish Prince, to protect the Protestant Religion, the Religion, which that very Prince had suppress'd in his own Dominions? That English Protestants, who receiv'd and succour'd so many of the *French*, that fled to them to enjoy their Religion, should themselves fly to *France* for Refuge from Persecution? That they should labour to engage a Popish Foreign Power to defend their Divine Worship from their own Prince at Home, the greatest

Patron and Assertor of that Worship in the whole World, and that the Subjects of *England* should earnestly solicit a Monarch to restore and maintain their Rights and Liberties, who himself is an absolute Prince in his own Dominions?

And had this barbarous and detestable Conspiracy, so deeply and carefully laid, and which had exhausted all the Counsels and Politicks of the Enemy, taken effect, the saddest Scene of Desolation had unavoidably ensu'd, that ever befel a miserable People. *England*, that had been so lately and miraculously deliver'd by the compassionate Arms of his Majesty from her terrible Apprehensions of sudden Ruine, had in a Moment been turn'd into a Field of Blood. The encroaching Tide of Misery, which his Majesty had repell'd, must have return'd with the Accession of greater Strength, and with greater Fury have overwhelm'd this unfortunate Island. A cruel and inexorable Army of Strangers must have ravag'd and laid Waste our fertile Country, burnt and destroy'd our Towns and Cities, having first sent the Spoils to enrich their own Land: In a Word, our Religion, that had so long flourish'd in the Nation, must have been entirely extirpated, and the free Government of *England* chang'd into a State of absolute Slavery, under Arbitrary Masters. These Calamities, whatever foolish Paradise the infatuated Conspirators might have dreamt of, must have been the necessary Consequence of the King's Fall, and a Foreign Invasion.

Such

Such an Example of Ingratitude in a Country of good-natur'd People, such Barbarity and Thirst of Blood in a civiliz'd Nation, such Revenge and meditated Treason among Christians, whose Badge of Distinction is mutual Love, where Protestants combin'd with Papists to subvert a Protestant Government, and Englishmen conspir'd with Foreigners, to subdue and enslave themselves as well as their Neighbours, and the Posterity of both, will appear so monstrous and unnatural, that coming Ages might be excus'd, if they look'd upon it all as purely fabulous, did not the clearest and most convincing Evidence, that ever accompany'd a Story of this Nature, and the full Confession of the Criminals themselves, put it beyond all possibility of doubting.

The Evidence, that discover'd this Conspiracy, and on which the Criminals were convicted and condemned, was as full and clear as perhaps was ever produc'd on the like Occasion. No Fact of this kind was ever prov'd and made appear so soon to the universal Satisfaction of all sorts of Persons. For the Evidence was free and voluntary, and perfectly deliver'd from all suspicions of Tampering and Subornation: The principal Witnesses were of a contrary Religion to that establish'd by our Laws, which they were zealous in the highest degree to subvert, and to settle their own in its Room. They were Men that ever shew'd invincible Hatred and Aversion to his Majesty and his Government; Men of an active

and enterprizing Temper, and upon that Account of great Credit and Intimacy with his greatest Enemies, and therefore cannot be suppos'd to forge and contrive a Conspiracy, and then perjure themselves, that they might destroy their Friends, and establish a Religion and a Government, whose ruine and Extirpation was their most passionate Wish.

They were themselves embark'd and engag'd in this horrible Design of Assassinating his Majesty; they were present at the Consults, Meetings and Cabals, where this Villany was discoursed and agreed upon, and were themselves forward to promote it. No Threats were us'd on the Part of the Government, nor any Promises of Pardon or Reward to induce them to accuse any Man unjustly. Many of these Witnesses were Strangers and unknown to one another, and therefore could not possibly combine together, either to contrive or impose Affliction of this Nature upon others; and as they were Strangers to each other, so they came in to give their Information separately and wholly ignorant of each other's Design: Yet was there so great an Harmony and Agreement between their several Relations in every, not only capital and essential, but even less material Parts, mutually enlightening and corroborating each other, that Demonstration and Noon-Day are not clearer than this Evidence.

And tho' it is not altogether unknown who were the Principal Heads and Promoters of this Conspiracy, yet the Names of those only, against whom there
was

was found down-right and positive Proof of their being engag'd in this horrid Villany, will be here mention'd.

The Conspirators carried on their traiterous Commerce with *St. Germans*, till at length the *French King* was prevail'd upon to assist the late King *James* with an Army to invade *England*. And it must be granted, that the Time which they fix'd upon to put their Design in Execution, was very favourable and encouraging: For now there were few regular Troops on Foot in *England* or *Scotland*, his Majesty's Forces being almost all employ'd in carrying on in Conjunction with his Allies, the War against the *French King* in *Flanders*: And as for the Militia of the Country, the Conspirators had those undisciplin'd Troops in Contempt, not believing they could make the least Stand against a *Veteran Army*. They believ'd therefore they should make a Descent on a weak and almost defenceless Country; neither did they apprehend any Opposition that could be made at Sea to prevent their Invasion, for they knew that a strong Convoy was ready in *England*, and had received sailing Orders to make the best of their Way to reinforce Admiral *Rook* at *Cadiz*, whose Squadron was look'd upon as inferiour in Strength to that of the *French* then putting to Sea from *Toulon*.

It must likewise be acknowledg'd, that in this Conjunction several Things concurr'd to make the Body of the People uneasy, though not as the Conspirators thought, ready for Rebellion; namely, the Loss of
their

their *East* and *West-India* Ships, that fell into the Hands of the *French*. The Necessity of greater Supplies for the Support of the Government. The Disagreement between *England* and *Scotland* about Schemes of Trade, and above all, the ill State of the silver Money, which now required a speedy Remedy. Our Coin had for many Years past, been gradually lessen'd or debas'd, but within these three last Years was so extreemly clipp'd and counterfeited, that there may be some Reason to believe that besides the sordid Coveteousness of particular Persons, there must have concurr'd the diligent Assistance of our Enemies, who by this Means endeavour'd to streighten and distress the Government: It was so great and so capital a Point, that without redressing this publick Evil, the Government could not have been supported much longer; yet the Remedy, the Application of which was absolutely necessary, was so difficult, and the Ways to come at it so intricate and embarrass'd, that whatever Means of Redress should be agreed upon, yet the best must have been attended with great Confusion and Disorder; whence, as they apprehended, such Tumults and Distractions would certainly follow, as would favour the Invasion, and soon overwhelm such a disturb'd and discontented Kingdom.

It was observ'd before, that two Sorts of Men, the Papists, and that Kind of moderate Protestants, who are nearest to them in Principles and Affection, were Enemies to his Majesty and his Government. It must now be remark'd that the Protestants were subdivided

subdivided into two Parties, one of which had the Lord *Melford* for their Head, the other the Earl of *Middleton*. The first was the hot and violent Sort, who had the Papists generally on their Side: These Men earnestly desir'd and laboured with Zeal to bring back the late King as an absolute Conqueror, without any Capitulation or Agreement. They hop'd to see him riding in Triumph over the Necks of his Opposers, and trampling under Foot his old Enemies, the Laws and Rights of the *English* Nation. The other Party, tho' disaffected to the Government, and very desirous of the late King's Return, yet were not transported to that extravagant Degree of Delusion, as to be willing to sacrifice their Religion, Rights and Liberties to the Will of an unlimited Master; and therefore in their Conferences with the other Side, about the Means of restoring the late King, they always offer'd such Methods and Schemes, as had a Shew at least of securing their Religion and Liberty, in Case he prevail'd; and these, who thus contend-
ed for his Restoration on Terms and Composition, were fiercely oppos'd by the other Faction, who still rejected their Overtures, and declaim'd loudly against all Limitations propos'd to hinder an exorbitant and despotick Power in their Prince: For these vehement Men were excessively fond of Arbitrary Dominion; nor was it only the King, but the Tyrant that they desir'd. They were unwilling to restrain a Power, which they hop'd to make Use of, for enslaving the Nation, and procuring Dominion
and

and Riches to themselves. Great Heats and Animosities rose between these two Parties: The first were most acceptable to the late King *James* and his Court; but the last were most considerable for their Number and Interest. To humour therefore the last, the Earl of *Middleton* who was sent over to *St. Germain's* to manage their Affairs, was made Secretary of State; and the Lord *Melford*, as if under some Disgrace, was order'd to withdraw from Court, that the other Faction might believe that they had the Ascendency, and that their Way and Method of restoring the late King was best accepted and chiefly insisted on; tho' there is good Ground to conclude, that all this was nothing but Artifice and Collusion: My Lord *Melford* being still in the Secret of the late King, and still corresponded underhand with him. And now by this concerted Invasion and Rebellion, it plainly appears that the violent and bigotted Party of my Lord *Melford* were in the greatest Esteem; that their Scheme of bringing back the late King without Terms, was most approv'd; while the others were abus'd and impos'd on by specious Assurances, that the Terms and Limitations, which they offer'd were very agreeable, while there was no Manner of Care taken, after the intended Descent should be made, and the Kingdom over-run with a Foreign Army, to secure either their Religion or their Laws.

Several

Several Designs had been laid before this, to make a Descent upon *England* with a Foreign Army, and thus to procure the Restoration of the late King, and we were almost every Spring alarm'd by the Enemies of the Government threatening the Kingdom with a formidable Invasion: But whenever such a real Invasion was intended, we had always some Declarations of the late King to facilitate his Reception. In those Declarations, whatever were his real Intentions, he always promised great Kindness to the *English* Nation; he thought it his Interest to sooth and soften the Temper of the People by repeated Promises of maintaining the Constitution of Parliaments, and protecting the Protestant Religion, with the Rights and Liberties of the Subject; all which however he had before labour'd with great Zeal to subvert. He seem'd to express some Sense of his Errours in his Government, and to make the People less zealous to oppose his Return, he declar'd that the past Offences of all Men should be pardon'd, provided they made no Opposition to him after his Landing. But now the Scene is quite chang'd; no obliging Declaration is set forth, no Promise of Pardon publish'd; nothing but Fire and Sword, and all the sad Effects of an absolute Conquest could be expected, in Case the Invasion should succeed. The late King no longer pretended to return upon a Protestant Interest, but by the Power of a Foreign Army wholly compos'd of old and experienc'd Troops, no *English*, nor *Irish*, of whom there were then considerable Numbers in *France*,
being

being allow'd to share in this Enterprize, as being look'd upon not so proper to be employ'd in subduing their own Country; and therefore, whatever that deluded Party might imagine, it is plain that nothing less was design'd, than an entire Reduction of these Kingdoms by a Foreign Power, the Consequences of which must unavoidably have been the utter Extirpation of our Religion, and the irrecoverable Subversion of our Laws and Liberties.

At the latter End of the Year 1695, all Things were prepar'd for a sudden Invasion of *England*, by the late King *James* at the Head of a powerful Army, and many *English* Malecontents, who conspir'd against their King and Country; and their Affairs were in the following Situation.

* About the Beginning of *February* 1695, the Duke of *Berwick* was dispatch'd into *England* to concert Affairs with the Conspirators here, and to give them Assurance that the late King was ready to make a Descent upon *England*, at the Head of an Army, and having discharged his Commission, the Duke return'd to *Calais*, and meeting at *St. Dennis* the late King his Father, he related to him, and afterward to the *French* King at *Versailles*, in what Posture he found Things in *England*, and how he had acquitted himself of his Expedition.

It was soon after that the late King *James* having taken his Leave of the *French* King, left *St. Ger-*

mains, and came Post to *Calais*, to put himself at the Head of the Army designed for *England*. At *Calais* he was met by the *Mareschal de Bouffleurs*, who came from *Flanders* to confer with him on this important Occasion, and to give such Orders and Advice, as he judged necessary to render the Expedition successful.

A competent Number of Transports were arrived at *Calais*, and other adjacent Places, convenient for the Embarkation of these Troops, and Mr. *Gaberet* was come up as high as *Calais* with a Squadron of Men of War, which when reinforced by the Conjunction of *Du Bart's* Fleet from *Dunkirk*, was looked upon as a sufficient Convoy.

This was the Posture of Affairs on the other Side of the Water. In the mean time, the Faction of the late King was on this Side ready to take up Arms, to receive and assist him. The Transportation of Horse, being a Matter of great Trouble, as well as Expence, * the Conspirators in *England* engaged to assist him at their Landing with several Regiments of Horse and Dragoons; for which Purpose, Commissions had been sent over from the late King, and delivered to several of the Conspirators, to empower them to raise Men, and as their Officers, to command them. In pursuance of this pretended Authority, many Troops were listed, and their Under-Officers named. Sir

* See Paper 11th, Paper 7th.

John Friend received a Commission for a Regiment of Horse, which was very near compleated; his Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, and Captains, being named, and the Troops almost full. Sir *William Perkins* had likewise a Commission for a Regiment of Horse, and had engaged a considerable Number to serve him in it. He declared his own Troop was wholly composed of old Soldiers, and that several other Gentlemen well experienced in Military Affairs, had promised to follow him as Volunteers. Coll. *Tempest*, as *Chernock* told *Porter*, had a Commission for a Regiment of Dragoons, which was said to be in great Forwardness. Sir *John Femvick* had four Troops ready: Coll. *Parker* was to command another Regiment, and Mr. *Curwin* another; * there was one more to be rais'd in and about *Suffolk*, where the Malecontents boasted they had great Interest. Many Commissions were delivered to those who were named for their Under-Officers. The late King having sent them Word, that he was ready to make a Descent, the Conspirators were very diligent in preparing to join him. Some of them took Journeys into several Provinces of the Kingdom, to agitate the discontented Party, and to acquaint them that the late King was on the Point of invading the Nation, and therefore stirred them up to rise in Arms to give him Assistance, and to ingage as many of their Friends, as they had Interest in, to do the

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* See Paper 9th.

MUSEVM
BRITANNICVM

same

same. But it cannot be expected, that a full and particular Account of the intended Insurrection should be published to the World, many of the Conspirators being absconded and fled from Justice, and many being not yet brought to their Trial. It may suffice, that this Conspiracy has been abundantly proved, and at last owned by all, or at least, denied by none of the Criminals, who have since most deservedly been condemned and executed for this detestable Plot against the King and Kingdom. It was the general Discourse among the late King's Faction, that they would universally take up Arms, and it is very natural to believe it, and at this time the Conspirators in *London* were very active, and determined to push on their Design to Execution.

Notwithstanding the various concurring Incidents, which I have named before, extremely favoured the intended Invasion and Insurrection, and were indeed a great Temptation and Encouragement to the undertaking of the one and the other, yet, whether it proceeded from the Dread of his Majesty's Wisdom and Courage, or from the cautious Counsels of the late King, it was resolved to put nothing to hazard, but to make their Success sure by one single Stroke, without which, they were not hardy enough to invade his Kingdom, though they knew there was little there but his single Person to defend it, his Forces, being, as said before, employed in *Flanders*.

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And

And notwithstanding all great Princes, and valiant Commanders, as well from the Generosity of their Nature, as from a due Regard to the Safety and common Interest of all those who are advanced to so high a Station, have ever abhorred such a base and horrible Enterprize, as the Assassination of any publick Person, much more of a King, and a brave Adversary, yet their Success in this Invasion and Insurrection was looked upon at *St. Germain's* to be of such Importance to their Affairs, that Humanity yielded to Maxims of State, and so great a King must fall by Villains, as if no Hopes were left of subduing him any other Way.

The Assassination of the King of *Great-Britain* being therefore concerted and agreed upon by the *English* Court at *St. Germain's*, as a Thing of absolute Necessity, to give Success to the intended Invasion. The next Thing considered, was a fit Person to manage an Affair of this Nature, and of such great Consequence. *Coll. Parker*, a Person of a dissolute Life, a hot and restless Temper, and distinguished from others by his remarkable and uncommon Wickedness, was by his bloody Principles, and inveterate Hatred to the King and his Friends, qualified above all Men for this Undertaking. He almost ever since his Majesty came to the Throne, had been carrying on some Design against his Life, was engaged in One, in the Year 1691, and after in the same Year with another, with *Grandvall* and *du Mont*,

Mont, * and after that † in 93 with *Goodman*, *Porter*, and *Chernock*. This Person, though in great Esteem with the Conspirators, and perfectly accomplish'd for such a barbarous Work, was not fixed upon for this Expedition; and considering how well he was known in *England*, and how infamous he was grown for his detestable Designs against his Majesty, they might justly apprehend, that his very being in *England* might alarm the People, who would presently imagine, that some great Mischief was in agitation, whenever that violent Man appeared in this Country. Sir *George Barclay* therefore was chosen as the most proper Person to be entrusted with the Conduct of this Enterprize.

He was a Native of *Scotland*, an experienced Officer, of known Courage, close and reserved, and of a competent Understanding; and withal, such a furious Bigot in his Religion, as to believe that for the Propagation of it, any the most dishonourable and inhumane Actions might lawfully be committed. This Gentleman having received his Commission from the late King, and from Mr. *Carroll*, Secretary to the late Queen, had Eight Hundred Pounds to provide Men and Horses, and to discharge other Expences, in conducting and carry-

* See the Printed Account of that Conspiracy.

† See Paper 11th, Paper 2, Paper 5.

ing on this Conspiracy; * though he afterwards complained of the Smallness of the Sum for accomplishing of so great an Undertaking, having first given out, that he was gone to *Paris* to be cured of the foul Disease, † left *St. Germain's* on or about the Tenth of *December* last, in order to his Embarkation for *England*. ** He was brought over, together with Major *Holms*, by Captain *Gill*, and landed in *Rumney-Marsh*, about the Beginning of *January* following. Upon his Arrival in *London*, he applied himself to the Persons, in whom he had Reason to confide, and such as he had the greatest Assurance in the World to believe, would be ready to ingage in this desperate Wickedness. These were *Harrison*, alias *Johnson*, a Priest, Captain *Chernock*, Captain *Porter*, and Sir *William Perkins*. Sir *George* had all the Encouragement that could be, to impart his Design to them, who before had shewn a forward Inclination to attempt the King's Person.

These were the principal Persons that Sir *George* addressed himself to. To these he communicated the Business which he came over about; that is, the Assassination of his Majesty, and acquainted them that as he was sent by the late King to conduct and accomplish this Business, so he had brought over with him that King's Commission for

* See Paper 3. † See Paper 9th. ** See Paper 14th.

‡ See Paper 3. Paper 11th. See Paper 3. Paper 7th.

his Warrant and Authority, *Chernock* and *Porter* were assured by him, that he had such a Commission, and *Sir William Perkins* and *Harrison, alias Johnson* saw and read it: He likewise acquainted them, that about the Number of twenty Officers and Troopers out of King *James's* Guards were ordered to come over, and were to be employed in this Affair, as was observed before. The fore-mentioned Persons readily complying with this abominable Design, to facilitate the Invasion and Restoration of the late King *James*, *Sir George* sets them immediately to work, to engage as many more bold and desperate Fellows, as would make up a Number sufficient for their Purpose, which, as they judg'd, ought to be Forty, or a few more. This the Conspirators chearfully undertook; and with great Diligence endeavoured to procure the Men he desired. * *Harrison, alias Johnson*, demanded of *Blaire*, who sometime after visited him in his Lodgings at *Somerset-House*, if he knew any Soldiers, or Men of Courage, for that was their Phrase for Ruffians and Cut-throats; for, said he, something may be done in a little time, that might prove an Introduction to King *James's* Restoration: *Blaire* replied, that he knew some such Persons, but then desired to be informed, how the Business could be effected. The other answered, after some Discourse about burning the Victualling-Office, to retard the

* See Paper 7th.

going out of the *English* Fleet; that he had been told, by an able and experienced Soldier, that with an Hundred good Horfe, he could put an End to the War in a Fortnights time. *Blair* replied, then it must be done in some dishonourable Way, which he durst not so much as harbour in his Thoughts. The Priest perceiving the Squeemishness of the Soldier, shrunk up his Shoulders, and so the Conversation ended. But some time after, when *Blair* objected to the said Assassination as a wicked Design, that had no Authority from God or Man to support it, *Harrison* acquainted him, that there was a sufficient Authority or Warrant, and that himself had seen it, and then demanded of him, if he thought it proper, that it should be shewn to every Body. *Blair* replied, that he did not imagine that such a Thing had been in his Nature (meaning the late King *James*) and thereupon took his Leave.

* But *Harrison* attempts Captain *Fisher* with more Success; for having told him, that King *James* had sent over a Commission by Sir *George Barclay* to kill the Prince of *Orange*, *Fisher* declared his Readiness to embark in this bloody Enterprize, and soon after, that is, about the Third of *February*, he was introduced by the said *Harrison* into the Company of Sir *George Barclay*, having first desired him, that in case he knew Sir *George*, to take

* See Paper 1st.

no notice of him. *Harrison* acquainted Sir *George Barclay*, that this was the Gentleman he promised to bring to him, that he might confide in him, and speak freely to him: Upon which, Sir *George* immediately propos'd to him the assassinating of his Majesty's Person. *Fisher*, without Hesitation, consents, and they presently enter upon Debate, about the best manner of accomplishing their wicked Purpose; and in order to it, *Fisher* undertook to provide five Horses and Arms for himself and four more. In the mean time, *Chernock*, *Porter*, and Sir *William Perkins* lost no time, but laboured with great Application to engage the Number of Assassins, for which they had undertaken. *Porter's Quota* was seven Men, and as many Horses; *Chernock's* Six or Seven; Sir *William Perkins* undertook for five Horses, Three to be mounted by Men of his own, and the other Two by such Men as the Conspirators should procure. Then Sir *George Barclay* said, that *Loick* and others, who were lately arrived from *France*, would likewise join with them and compleat the Number; and now having succeeded in the first Step, and a sufficient Number being undertaken for, they had many Conferences in different Places, about the best Ways of putting their Design in Execution.

* The Places where they met and held their several Consultations, were Captain *Porter's* Lodgings,

* See Paper 2.

in *Norfolk-street*, the *Globe-Tavern* in *Hatton-Garden*, the *Nag's-Head* in *St. James's-street*, the *Cock* in *Bow-street*, the *Old-Griffin* in *Holbourn*, the *Sun-Tavern* in the *Strand*, &c. But the Place which *Sir George* frequented, and whither many of the Conspirators came to receive Orders from him, was the *Square* or *Piazza* in *Covent-Garden*. *

At their several Debates, various Methods were propos'd of executing their Purpose, † one Way suggested was, to attack the Guards, and in the mean time to kill the King, as he went on some *Sunday* from *Kensington* to *St. James's Chapel*; which was offered one time in this manner, that six Men on Foot should be posted in the little House at *Hide-Park-Gate*, who should issue out, and by shutting the Gate, make a Stop, and then the Conspirators might fall on and attack the Guards with Sword in Hand. Another time it was propos'd to shoot one of the Leading-Horses, whereby his Majesty's Coach might be forced to stay in its Passage thro' the said Gate, and then to assault and murder him by one Party, while another engag'd the Guards. ** Another Proposal was to attempt the King's Person, when they should be informed that he was gone to *Mr. Lattin's House* in *Richmond*, a Place whither the King sometimes retired for the Air and Recreation; and the Reason of this Proposal was, that during his Stay there, he was

* See Paper 1st. † See Paper 9th. See Paper 2.

usually but weakly guarded;† at another Time they discours'd of seizing the King in his Palace of *Kensington* by Night, which was to be done by securing the Garden with about forty Men, who were to be provided with Ladders for that Purpose : || Some insisted that their Design would be best effected by dressing an Ambuscade near the King's House at *Richmond*, where a Number of Foot should be posted in a neighbouring Wood, ready to issue forth, and attack his Majesty as he pass'd by in his Coach, while the rest of the Conspirators assaulted the Guards, to prevent their giving him any Assistance.

Tho' this Method was warmly contended for by some, and well enough lik'd by Sir *George*, yet they were at last controul'd, and the Proposal was reject-ed ; * for the Scheme which the greatest Part approv'd, and in Favour of which Sir *George Barclay* did at at Length declare, whose Orders the rest were obliged to obey, and which was at last settled and agreed upon among them all, as the final Result of their Conferences and Debates, was this : They resolv'd to attack the King on his Return from *Richmond* in the Evening after his Hunting, it being his Majesty's frequent Practice to go thither, as said before, for his Diversion. The Place, which they chose for this bloody Business, was the Lane between *Turnham-Green* and *Brentford*, and the particular Part of that Lane agreed upon, was the End next

† See Paper 1st. || Paper 10th. * See Paper 3.

to *Turnham-Green*, thro' which his Majesty us'd to pass in his Return from *Richmond*. †

The Execution of their Design was projected and resolv'd upon in the following Order : The Conspirators were to be form'd into three Parties. Sir *George* the Commander in Chief, and the great Conductor of the Villany, was with a chosen Party of Eight or Ten to assault the Coach, by discharging a Blunderbuss or Musquetoon loaded with Six or Eight Balls, and their other Fire-Arms to murder his Majesty, and all that were with him in the Coach, while the other two Parties, of which one was to be commanded by *Chernock* and *Porter*, the other by *Brigadier Rookwood*, were to have fallen on, and attack'd the King's Guards with Sword in Hand, on either Side of the Lane; and that they might act with great Care and Circumspection, and be yet farther satisfied that this was a proper Place, wherein to execute their desperate Resolution, they sent *King*, *Porter* and *Knightly*, to observe and survey the Place which they had fixed upon. *

Accordingly these three Persons rode out the next Day to *Turnham-Green*, to perform their Orders, and after having with great Attention and Accuracy made their View, and very well survey'd the Place, and the Nature of the Ground on each Side the Water, they return'd to the rest of the Conspirators, who were then met at the *Nagg's Head* Tavern in

† See Paper 1st.

* Paper. 3.

St. *James's* Street, to impart to them their Observations. The Report they made, was so pleasing to the rest of their Company, that they were all confirm'd in their Opinion and abundantly satisfied in their Choice of the Ground. Thus had these barbarous and merciless Men agreed upon the Scene where to act their Tragedy, and concerted the Manner of effecting it. †

And that their Design might be carried on, and accomplished with great Caution and Security against any Contingency, they appointed two orderly Men, *Chambers* and *Durant*, to lodge near the Guards at *Kensington*, and to attend diligently and constantly there, that they might be ready to give the Conspirators Notice, whenever his Majesty went Abroad. ‡ *Chambers* was appointed to bring his Intelligence to Captain *Chernock*, and *Durant* his to Sir *George Barclay*. *Chambers* had Orders to advertize them when the King, and *Durant* was to inform them when the Guards went forth; upon which Sir *George Barclay* and *Chernock* undertook to convey timely Notice to the rest of the Conspirators, that they might all assemble at the Time and Place appointed, and every Man take the Post assign'd him.

* It was further agreed and resolv'd upon, for the accomplishing of their execrable Purpose, that when they should receive Intelligence from their orderly Men, that his Majesty was gone towards

† See Paper 3.

‡ Paper 3.

* Ibid.

Richmond, to drop out of Town by three or four in a Company, the better to avoid Suspicion, and afterwards for the same Reason to disperse themselves in small Parties in the several Inns mark'd out for them about *Brentford* and *Turnham-Green* and the neighbouring Places, where they might be dispos'd of with the most Convenience and the least Observation, and so without any Alarm and Disturbance might wait for the King's Return from *Richmond*, and then be all ready to execute their Design. In Order to this, *Durant* was sent to take an Account of the most convenient Inns and Stables about *Brentford* and *Turnham-Green*, and to give a List of them to the Company. *Durant* accordingly went and took an Account of all the Inns about those Places, in Conformity to his Orders; and it was resolv'd that Sir *George Barclay* should be at the old King of *Bohemia's* Head, and the rest were to be dispos'd of in small Bodies, in the other Inns thereabout.

And for the better effecting of their Treason, Care was taken that when the King was at *Richmond*, a trusty Person should wait at *Que-Ferry*, who should give Notice when the Guards return'd thither to wait for the King, to the End that every Man might prepare himself, and be in Readiness.

Having thus fixed on the Place, provided their Men, and agreed on the Order and Method of executing their Conspiracy, at last they appointed the Time of doing of it. *Saturday* the fifteenth of *February* 1695 was the first Day that was agreed upon, and then

then if their orderly Men, *Durant* and *Chambers*, should bring them Intelligence from *Kensington*, that the King was gone to *Richmond*; on that Morning they determin'd to make haste to their Posts appointed at *Turnham-Green*, and to attack the Guards, and assault the King at his Return. †

It was but a few Days preceding this *Saturday* the 15th of *February* 1695, on which the Conspirators resolv'd to put in Execution their intended Wickedness, when Divine Providence, which had watch'd over his Majesty from his Infancy, guarding his precious Life, protecting his Interests, and delivering him from the greatest Streights and Difficulties, that he might at last set him up as a great Deliverer of oppress'd and injur'd Nations, was pleas'd to touch the Hearts of some of the Conspirators, and cause them to reflect with Horror upon the Tragical Business that was carrying on, and the terrible Consequences which must of Necessity attend it, upon which they resolv'd to ease their unquiet Minds, and to prevent the Execution of the Plot by a timely Discovery.

The first of the Conspirators who discover'd the Treason was Captain *Fisher*, who came to the Earl of *Portland* on *Tuesday* the 11th of *February*, and acquainted him with the Design of taking away the King's Life, and named several of the Persons who were concern'd in it; but he could not then inform

† See Paper 1st.

him in what Manner it was concerted, nor what Day was appointed for it; but he assur'd the Earl that as soon as he should be inform'd more particularly, he would wait upon him, and give him farther Information. Accordingly on *Thursday* following, being the 13th of *February*, Captain *Fisher* return'd to the Earl of *Portland*, and acquainted him that *Saturday* next following, was the Day agreed upon by the Conspirators, to attempt his Majesty's Life, and then told him in what Manner, and in what Place they intended to do it. This I learnt from the Earl of *Portland*.

The Second, who discover'd this villanous Plot, was Mr. *Pendergrafs*, who knew nothing of the barbarous Business till *Thursday* the 13th of *February*, for that Day he came to *London* out of *Hampshire*, * being sent for by Captain *Porter*, who imparted to him the Design in Hand, of assassinating the King, and endeavoured to engage him in it. Tho' Mr. *Pendergrafs* was exceedingly startled at such a horrid Proposal, he seem'd to comply, and promis'd to make one of the Party; but the very next Day in the Evening he went to the Earl of *Portland*, not knowing that Captain *Fisher* had been with him before on the same Errand, and told him that he came to reveal to him an important Secret, namely, a Design against his Majesty's Life: He told the Earl that indeed he was a Roman Catholick, but that he did not think that

Ibid.

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any Religion could justify so great a Wickedness, and therefore from Principles of Christianity, and Probity, he thought himself obliged, by revealing this Matter, to prevent the King's falling into the Hands of the Conspirators. But he acquainted him at the same time, that the Conspirators were his Friends, and, that from one of them he had received great Obligations, and therefore, though he thought himself bound in Duty and Conscience to make this Discovery, to preserve his Majesty's Life, yet he likewise thought himself under Obligations of Honour and Gratitude, not to betray his Friends; and therefore declared, his Resolution was not to make known their Names, or to appear an Evidence against them. He then desired the Lord *Portland*, as he tendered his Majesty's Life, to prevail with him not to go to *Richmond* on the Morrow, assuring him, that the Conspirators had prepared all Things to assault him in his Return. It ought to be taken notice of, for the Reputation of this Gentleman, as to the Credibility of his Testimony, that the meer Abhorrence of such a Villanous Design was the only Motive that induced him to make it known to the Court.

His Majesty being made acquainted with the Discovery, which Captain *Fisher* and Mr. *Pendergrafs* had made to the Earl of *Portland*, received but little Impression from it; the Obstruction he met with about giving Credit to what they had related, proceeded not only from his fearless and
unshaken

unshaken Temper, and the Opinion he had receiv'd of the *English* Honour and Bravery, which make Men abhor a vile and bloody Action, but likewise from the Princely Goodness and Benignity of his Nature, from which he entertained too good Thoughts of the worst of his Enemies; and besides, it was not easy for him to believe, that there could be found in a Kingdom, that owed to him the Preservation of their Religion, Liberties, and every Thing that is dear to a free People, any such Monsters of Ingratitude, as would attempt to take away his Life in so barbarous a manner, which he had freely and frequently hazarded for their Sakes; this appeared to him so unnatural and incredible, that he was with great Difficulty, and not till he was overborn with Importunity prevail'd with to lay by his Design of going to *Richmond* on the *Saturday*, and to remain at Home in his Palace at *Kensington*. These Things I likewise had from the Mouth of the Earl of *Portland*.

* The next Man, who voluntarily gave Information of this Conspiracy, was Mr. *de la Rue*, who declared, that he had frequented the Company of the Conspirators, and made himself intimate with them, on design, when this horrible Production was almost ready for the Birth, by a timely Discovery to make it abortive. He applied himself to Brigadier *Lewson*, and acquainted him with the intended Vil-

* See Paper 4.

lany some few Days after Captain *Fisher* and Mr. *Pendergrafs* had been on the same Design with the Lord *Portland*, but not one of the three was in the least acquainted with the Intentions of either of the others to reveal the Conspiracy ; and though Mr. *de la Rue* gave his Information without knowing that Captain *Fisher* and Mr. *Pendergrafs* had done the like before ; yet his Story so fully confirmed that of the other two, agreeing exactly with them in all the material Particulars, that his Majesty, notwithstanding his unshaken Constancy, and his great Aversion for the Reasons above-named, to believe this execrable Plot, which so nearly concerned his own Life, was by this concurrent Testimony of *la Rue*, at last perswaded of the Truth of it.

On *Friday* the 21st of *February*, at Night, his Majesty was pleas'd to admit Mr. *Pendergrafs* and Mr. *de la Rue* severally in his Presence, and heard them relate what they had told the Lord *Portland* before, concerning the Conspiracy. Mr. *Pendergrafs* discovered the Plot in general, to prevent his Majesty falling into the Hands of the Conspirators, but withal, declared, as he had done the Week before to the Lord *Portland*, that it was his positive and settled Resolution, not to mention Names, or at any Time to become an Evidence against them.

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He continued in this Resolution with great stedfastness, 'till his Majesty used such convincing Arguments, as prevail'd with him to recede from it.

The King told, him that he had indeed shewn himself a Man of Probity and Honour; that he had great Obligations to him for the timely Care he had taken to reveal a Design that so nearly concern'd his Life; but he shew'd him withal, that unless he went further in his Discovery, and made him acquainted with the Names of the Conspirators, he would not put him into a Condition of preserving himself against them: That the Detection of the Treason in general might indeed render his Majesty suspicious of all Men, but would be no Security against any that intended to take away his Life; and that the Conspirators might change the Method and Order of their Design, as well as the Time and Place of Execution; and therefore that Mr. *Pendergrafs* by discovering the Conspiracy, while he conceal'd the Names of the Conspirators, would fall short of his own Intention, which was to preserve the King's Life, it being impossible that his Majesty could be in Safety, unless the desperate Undertakers of this Design against him, were made known and secur'd. By this just Reasoning of his Majesty, Mr. *Pendergrafs* was at last overcome; and being convinc'd of the absolute Necessity of going further in this Discovery, to enable his Majesty to provide for his Safety, he wrote down the Names of many of the Conspirators, which he delivered to the
Lord

Lord *Portland*; but not 'till his Majesty had given his Honour that he should not, unless he pleas'd, be us'd as an Evidence against them. This Information also I receiv'd from the Earl of *Portland*.

On *Saturday* the 15th of *February* the Conspirators concluding that his Majesty, according to his Custom, would go to *Richmond* to hunt, they had prepar'd all Things, and were ready to mount for the Execution of their detestable Project, but having receiv'd an Account that the King did not go abroad that Day, they were oblig'd to wait for another Opportunity, and therefore they resolv'd to perpetrate their Treason on the *Saturday* following.

* On *Friday* the 21st of *February* Sir *George Barclay*, Sir *William Perkins*, Captain *Porter*, and *Chernock*, who were the principal Conspirators concern'd in the Assassination, met at the *Sun Tavern* in the *Strand*, where they had a long Discourse concerning their Disappointment the *Saturday* before. Some of them were afraid that the Secret had taken Air, and that their Business was discover'd to the Government; on the other Hand some believ'd that the Design was not reveal'd, and us'd this Argument for their Opinion, that if the Business had been discover'd, they should not have been there assembled, as they then were: Upon which the Diffidence and Jealousy of the others being remov'd, † it was again resolv'd among them, that if the King went abroad to hunt

* See Paper 3. Paper 10th. † See Paper 3.

the next *Saturday*, they would then endeavour to accomplish their Design, in the Way and Method which they had fixt upon for the *Saturday* before.

* The same *Friday* in the Evening, the Conspirators who belong'd to Sir *George Barclay's* Party, met at the *Two Black Posts* in *Maiden-Lane*, where *Harris*, *King*, *Richardson*, *Cassels*, *Maxwell*, and *Handford*, then were; Captain *Counter* came thither to them, and said, they must be sure to be all in a readiness the next Morning, and therefore order'd them by no Means to stir out; upon which *Cassels*, after having us'd a dreadful Imprecation, said, he resolv'd to have the Plunder of the Field, crying out, *To-morrow is the Day, Boys!* *King* thereupon said, if it did not succeed on the Morrow, he would entertain no farther Thoughts about it. *Handford* demanded how they should make their Escape after the Execution of their Design; *Cassels* reply'd, he must keep with the Party to which he was order'd. † The like Answer Sir *George Barclay* gave to those who ask'd him the same Question, that is, that when they had kill'd the King, they should keep together 'till they came to *Hammer-smith*, and then disperse and go into Town by several Ways and in small Companies, where they would have no need of lying long conceal'd, for the Invasion would immediately follow, and then they should be set at Liberty: But notwithstanding this, some of the Conspirators that reflected more coolly

* See Paper 9th. † See Paper 3.

upon this Affair and the Danger that attended it, were dissatisfied in their Minds, that no better Provision was made to secure their Retreat.

* The next Day, being *Saturday*, the 22^d of *February*, which was the second Time agreed upon for the Execution of their Villany, Captain *Porter's* Party, as they were appointed, came to him, to receive their Orders. First came *de la Rue*, and Captain *Porter* told him, that all Parties were ready to march in the Afternoon, provided the King went out a hunting; an Account of which they expected from *Chambers* and *Durant*, their orderly Men at *Kensington*: Soon after came *Cranburn*, *Keys*, *Pendergrafs*, and *King*, the last of whom belonged to Sir *George Barclay's* Party. *Pendergrafs* was chosen out of *Porter's* Number, to be one of the Eight, who under Sir *George*, were to assassinate his Majesty. Captain *King* came to *Porter* with a Message from Sir *George Barclay*; then *Porter* taking a Piece of Paper, wrote down a List of his Men, which he sent by *Cranburn*, whom he called his Quarter-Master, to Captain *Chernock*; after a short Stay, *Cranburn* returns, and brings back the Paper which he carried, and at the Foot of *Porter's* List, was added the List of *Chernock's* Men, both which made up about Eighteen; upon which, one of the Conspirators told Captain *Porter*, that he thought their Number had been greater, meaning the Par-

* See Paper 4th.

ties of *Chernock* and *Porter*; to which *Porter* answered, that they had been disappointed of Five or Six; and indeed *Kenrick* excus'd himself upon the Account of his Arm, which he pretended was broke. *Sherburn* ask'd too many Questions to be trusted; and *Plowden*, tho' he appeared the *Saturday* before, did not according to his Promise appear now; and one or two more recommended by *Loick*, had fail'd them. Then *Porter* declared, that these Men, with those of *Sir George Barclay*, would make up Forty, which *King* declared were enough of all Conscience to do the Business. *Cranburn* at his Return acquainted them likewise, that *Chambers*, the orderly-Man, had sent Intelligence to *Chernock*, that the King was to go out a hunting between ten and eleven a-Clock, which was communicated and received with a great deal of Joy, and * then *Porter* declared, that *Mr. Pendergrafs* was to be one of the Eight who were to attack the King's Coach, and said aloud, that he had a special Piece for him, that would carry eight Balls; upon which, *King*, adding Raillery to his infernal Wickedness, said to *Pendergrafs*, I hope you will not be afraid of breaking the Glas-Windows. In the mean time, Major *Holms* was very diligent in getting ready *Sir George Barclay's* Party; he sent *Harris* to *Counter's* Lodgings, to receive Orders, who told him, that he was to be of *Rookwood's* Party, and *Rook-*

* See Paper 4th 3.

wood being at the same time there, gave *Harris* a List of Names, and told him, laughing, that he would make him his Aid de Camp. In the List was *Harris's* own Name, the Names of *Hare*, *Handford* and *Blackburn*, with Captain *Rookwood's* Name at the Top; then *Rookwood* desired him to get those Men ready, which he did accordingly.

All Things were now in readines, and the Conspirators prepared to mount, and pass, to avoid Observation, out of Town by Two or Three in a Company, and to quarter in the Inns about *Turnham-Green* and *Brentford*, where they were billeted, and had Orders to wait till his Majesty's Return from *Richmond*, and then to make their Attack in the Order before related. But on a sudden, to their great Mortification, Notice was given by their orderly Man, that the King did not go abroad that Day. This Account was given by *Chambers* to *Chernock*, and the News of it was likewise conveyed to *Porter* and his Party; soon after *Keys* came to them, who were now gone to dine at the *Blue-Posts* in *Spring-Garden*, and told them, that the Guards were returned in a Foam, and the King's Coaches were come back to the *Meuse*, and that it occasioned great wondring among the People, that the King should two *Saturdays* successively put off his Diversion of Hunting. This struck a sudden Damp and Consternation among the Conspirators, who now concluded their Design was discovered, and every one began to cast about for his

own Security; yet notwithstanding they saw their Design was frustrated, and could not but reflect upon the great Danger they were in, such was their implacable Malice, that they could not part till they had drank several disloyal Healths; This done, they dispers'd, and every Man took Care for his own Safety. *Durant* had given the same Intelligence to *Sir George Barclay*, who, upon this Information, sent Word to his Party, that the King not intending to go abroad that Day, there would be no Occasion for their Service; and soon after *Sir George* looking on their Design as at an End, took Care to withdraw, and conceal himself.

And now having set these Matters in their true Light, and given an impartial and sincere Account, how all Things pass'd from the first forming of this Conspiracy against the King and Kingdom, to the happy Discovery and Disappointment of it, it is hoped, there is no farther need of reinforcing the Credibility of such a Relation, than barely to desire the most incredulous People to read it, and the Depositions and Informations given upon Oath, which are as Vouchers annexed to it, with a Mind not invincibly set against Conviction.

In full Persuasion therefore, that there will be found but few of common Sense and Honesty so obstinately unreasonable, as to deny, or disbelieve, either the intended Assassination of the King's Person, or the Invasion of his Kingdoms, it is very just, as well as seasonable, to entreat his Majesty's

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Subjects of all Conditions, Interests and Opinions, to re-capitulate these Matters, and make such Reflections from them, as they shall find proper and natural.

All who are capable of Observation, and can judge of publick Affairs, must plainly see, that his Majesty can have no Interest of his own, separate from that of these Kingdoms; and we have all the Reason in the World to believe, that he has the Publick Good always in his View, and hath not fail'd at any time of doing his Part to procure it according to the Advantages and Opportunities that God hath made him Master of, and we cannot but think, that he looks on himself as obliged in Honour and Conscience to pursue it and no other.

But it is not fit that every Person should call his own the Kingdom's Interest, and measure and determine of the Publick by his own private Benefit. The King knows he is the common Father of the Country, and, as such, is to consult, procure and advance the Good of his People, that is, their Good in general, with regard to their Affairs Abroad, as well as those at Home, and respecting Time to come, as well as the present, and this he has been hitherto, and is still doing, notwithstanding the Censures of some, that are partial, narrow-minded, and of short Sight.

It

It would be well, moreover, that his honest and well-meaning Subjects would attend and carefully observe, whether those that make the greatest Noise about the Publick Good, are not generally such as either understand it least, or truly trouble and oppose it most: Whether they, who are most busy and industrious to spread abroad seditious and inflaming Rumours, are not the likeliest to contrive them, and more inclined to wish and have them true than otherwise; there being else no tolerable Reason to be given, why they should on all Occasions, raise and exaggerate the Losses and Misfortunes of their own Country, depreciate its Successes and Advantages, and magnify invidiously those of the Enemy.

By some of these Means and Arts his Majesty's Enemies have long been trying to insinuate into the Minds of his good People a Disesteem of his Person and Dislike of his Government, to intimidate their Minds, and extinguish their Care and Industry to make them heartless, and consequently useless, and unfix their Duty and Affections, and prepare them for the Change they had been contriving; and therefore this Matter is recommended to their Consideration again, that such, who have been caught unwarily in any of these Snares, would for the future avoid them, and be no more the Instruments of forwarding their Enemies Designs to the Disturbance and Destruction of their Country.

It

It is but just and reasonable to bespeak the Recollection of all, and to invite them to consider yet more particularly, what the Consequences were most likely to have been, both with respect to *Europe*, and themselves at Home, had God been so displeased as to permit his Majesty's Enemies to have effected their unnatural and barbarous Design against his Person.

Whether that League, in which most of the Christian Princes in the World have thought it necessary to confederate and join, had not by this Event been broken, and all the Hopes that *Europe* had of late of reducing *France* to her just Bounds, of settling Peace and Quiet, and securing the Repose of *Christendom*, had not by *England's* falling off been quite defeated. Whether this Nation be not equally concerned with others, to see that no Prince grow so formidable to all his Neighbours, as to be able to over-run them, when he has either Will, or a favourable Opportunity presented him of doing it, when it is not itself out of the Reach of the same Dangers and Oppressions; and whether it is not manifest, how necessary its Conjunction with the rest of the World has been against the common Enemy; and with respect to our selves at Home, whether upon his Majesty's Death this Nation must not immediately have submitted upon Discretion, and without any Terms to a Foreign Army, and have been thereby reduced to a Province under a Foreign Dominion; and whether this Kingdom must not have
been

been condemned to satisfy the great Arrears pretended to be due for long Assistance, Depredations, Losses, and the Expence of a Seven Years War; and whether its Religion, Laws and Liberties had not been presently subverted, or have been continued only by the Favour and Clemency of their new Sovereign; whether, I say, this had not been the best of this Nation's Fortune, even upon supposal of no manner of Resistance.

And whether, had this Foreign Army been oppos'd with Force, this Kingdom would not have welter'd in its own Blood, and been engag'd in a Civil War more unextinguishable and devouring, than any former one whatever, by being fomented by a powerful Enemy from Abroad, who would undoubtedly have found in it his Account, at least, when the best Blood in *England* had been spilt in these intestine, cruel Quarrels.

In a Word, let it be considered, whether the Condition of this Nation, either by a tame and peaceable Submission, or by an obstinate and fierce Resistance, had not been unexpressibly calamitous and miserable, and whether this had not been inevitably its Condition, had God permitted his Majesty to fall in the designed Time and Manner, and in that Juncture of Affairs.

These Things are fit to be recommended to the Consideration of all his Majesty's Subjects, of what Persuasions and Opinions soever; nor should we be out of Hopes, that even the *Roman* Catholicks themselves,

selves, who are now at leisure to consider, and are
 freed a little from those Heats and Resentments,
 which crafty and seducing Leaders had designedly
 inspir'd into them, will now look back upon what
 Part they were to have born in this Affair, with
 some Horrour and Astonishment. They must needs
 know, they owed their Country better Things than
 Slavery and Destruction; and though they would
 not, or could not see their Duty, through the Rage
 of Revenge, or blinded with ambitious Hopes, or
 misguided by a false Zeal, yet now it is expected,
 they should, in their cooler Temper, relent, and
 come to their Sense again; renounce their pernici-
 ous Principles, and shew all Tokens of Repentance,
 by a more dutiful and submissive Carriage for the
 Time to come. They might, one would think,
 believe and see the Providence of God intended them
 more Good by the Disappointment of the late De-
 sign, than they deserved; it being nothing proba-
 ble, that their Families and Estates should have es-
 caped better than their Neighbours, either under
 the Fury of an undistinguishing Army, or the Do-
 minion of an Arbitrary Foreigner; and the Use
 which these People should make of this Discovery,
 should be to give the Nation some good Proof,
 that they have recovered the Temper of *English-*
men, and though they serve not God in the same
 Temples, and with the same Rites, yet, that they
 will be as peaceable and as quiet as the rest of his
 Majesty's Subjects, and retain an equal Value and
 Esteem

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Esteem for the good Laws, Liberties, and Honour of their Country.

There is great Reason to believe, that his Majesty is willing to bespeak them in this, rather than in any louder or harsher Tone, and would admonish them to try by a more dutiful and prudent Conduct, to justify in part the Favour he has shown them hitherto, and suffer him according to his Disposition, still to persist in mitigating the Rigour of some Statutes made against them.

This is also what his Majesty's other disaffected Subjects should endeavour: They have hitherto assumed in common with the rest, the Title of good Protestants, and good *English*-men, which all the World believes they will never deserve, by calling in, and joining with, and giving up their Country to a *Popish* Army, and therefore they ought to make these Titles good, by other sorts of Proofs, better becoming good Subjects and good Christians; that they draw not down upon their Heads the Vengeance of more severe Laws, and indeed the Indignation of all Mankind, there being not the least Countenance of any of the Church of *England*'s Principles, of which they pretend themselves the only pure and standing Part, to justify their factious Stubborness and Disobedience, much less their traiterous Practices.

As for the rest of his Majesty's good Subjects, there is no doubt they will, and do consider the Consequences of his Death at such a Time, had
God

God permitted it, as wicked Traitors had devised; and sure it cannot be but with great Content and Satisfaction, that his Majesty has heard and seen them from the highest to the lowest, detesting all such villainous and unnatural Treasons, returning Thanks to God for his Deliverance, and universally associating in the Defense and Preservation of his Life and Government. There was no Cause to doubt of their Affection and Zeal before, but since his Majesty's Enemies, against their Will and Purpose, have given his good Subjects a new Occasion of demonstrating to all the World their exemplary Care and Concern for his Security, so there is no Reason to doubt, but that his Majesty does accept of these Expressions of their Zeal and Loyalty, with the greatest Satisfaction, and will in return, do every Thing that can be expected from him, for the Defense and Preservation of their Country, Laws and Liberties, and the Reformed Religion, against all Enemies whatsoever.



AUTHENTICK
COPIES
OF THE
INFORMATIONS
AND
DEPOSITIONS
Upon OATH,
By which the Foregoing
HISTORY
IN ITS
Principal and most Material
Parts is Confirm'd.



Printed in the Year, MDCCXXIII.



Informations *and* Depositions.

PAPER the First.

DEPOSITION

OF

RICHARD FISHER.



Aptain *Richard Fisher* of *Dartmouth-Copy, Street Westminster*, maketh Oath, that he met with *Sir George Barclay* or *Bartlet* about the third of this Instant *February*, at the *Cock* in *Bow-Street*,

where was also present a Monk called *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, who told him, the said *Richard Fisher*, in Case he knew the said *Sir George Bartlet*, not to take any Notice of him; whereupon he the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison* said to *Sir George Barclay*, This is the Gentleman I was to bring to you, you may trust him, and speak freely to him: Upon which the said *Sir George Barclay* askt this Deponent, whether he would be en-

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gag'd to be one of those that should seize the Prince of *Orange*: This Deponent answered him, that he would. Then replied Sir *George Barclay* to him, Let us see which Way you will propose. This Deponent said, when he was a hunting. Sir *George Barclay* answered, that is very well, but added, What if it should be done as he comes to Chapel to St. *James's*? The Deponent answered, I think it would do very well. Sir *George* answered, what Strength would do? The Deponent replied, Thirty or two and Thirty, I think would be enough, because the usual Guards were but five and twenty, and those not half loaded. Upon which Sir *George Barclay* replied, then we will have about six Foot-Men, who should be in the little House at *Hide-Park Gate*, and come out ready to shut the Gate to make a Stop, and then we will fall upon the Guards with Sword in Hand. And therefore let us be ready and meet very often, in Order to the carrying on this Matter. Hereupon after several other Meetings between the Deponent, the said Sir *George Barclay*, and the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, and one other Person, whom this Deponent knoweth not, it was at last concluded, on or about the thirteenth Instant of *February*, to execute the said Design of seizing the Prince of *Orange*; and in Case of Opposition from the Guards, to kill him; and in Order to this, Spies were sent to *Kensington*, who waited there all Night; but the Prince of *Orange* not going Abroad as he used to do, on the Day following being the fifteenth Instant, the De-

sign

sign aforesaid was put off for some Days. And on the *Monday* following, they met again at the Sign of the *Cock* in *Bow-street* to discourse of the said Design; but that Meeting soon ended, and they appointed to meet next Day at the Sign of the *King's Head* in *Holbourn*, where the Deponent only meeting the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, they two went to the Sign of the *Old Griffin* not far off, to which Place the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, brought the said *Sir George Barclay*, who coming in, said, Captain *Fisher*, what must we do now? The Deponent answering, what you will: Then *Sir George Barclay* said, what do you think of seizing the Prince of *Orange* between *Brentford* and *Turnham-Green*, as he shall come next from Hunting in the Evening; or perhaps we may have an Opportunity of seizing him at *Mr. Lattin's House* in *Richmond*, when he would be very weakly guarded, for we resolve to fall on with Sword in Hand, and for that Purpose strong pushing Swords will be better then cutting Swords; and if we fail these Ways, we resolve to do it on *Sunday* next, as he the said Prince of *Orange* shall be coming to *St James's*, by shooting one of the leading Horses, so as to stop the Coach in *Hide-Parke-Gate*; whereupon the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison* said, and shoot also one of the Wheel Horses, and then they are both stopt; and then the said *Sir George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet* said, this would be no Rebellion or Assassination, for he was no King. This Deponent further saith, that the said *Sir George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, sent him

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on *Sunday* the 9th Instant to view the Tower, and see how strong the Guards were there, in Order to seize the Tower for the late King *James*; which this Deponent did, and afterwards having made a Report to him and the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, it was thought convenient to desist from that Enterprize, and to pursue the former Design; which said Design of seizing the Person of the Prince of *Orange*, was to be followed with a general Infurrection in *England* and *Scotland*, and by an Invasion from *France*; the Ships being ready, and the Men to embark with the late King *James* at the Head of them; as the said Sir *George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, and the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison* informed this Deponent: And the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, told him, this Deponent, that King *James* had sent Orders for executing the Design aforesaid, and that the said Sir *George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, had brought over the said Orders from King *James* with him, he being then lately come from *France*: And this Deponent further saith, that he has been credibly inform'd, that one Major *Lowick*; alias *Jackson*, *George Porter*, Captain *Chernock*, Captain *Stow*, Captain *Walbank*, Captain *James Courtney*, *Thomas Bartrom* and *Sherburn*, and several others, whom this Deponent knoweth not, to the Number of Forty or more, were engaged in the said Design of seizing and assassinating his Majesty, whom they called the Prince of *Orange*, in the Manner aforesaid, together with the said Sir *George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, and the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, whom this Deponent knoweth

knoweth to be guilty of this Conspiracy in the Manner before declared. And this Deponent further saith, that in Case his Majesty had gone out a Hunting either on *Saturday* the fifteenth Instant, or on *Saturday* last, the two and twentieth Instant, the said Design of seizing and assassinating his Royal Person, had been attempted, and, as he believes, put in Execution. And this Deponent further saith, that in Order to the carrying on of the said Design, he was to provide five Horses and Arms to be in Readiness for himself and four others, whereof *Henry Fitz Patrick* was to be one; and then to meet the said Sir *George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, Major *Lowick*, and two others, whose Names this Deponent knoweth not. The Deponent further says, That the first Horsemen, who should be ready to execute this Design, were to be lodg'd at the King of *Bohemia* near *Turnham-Green*, and the rest as they came, to be in other Inns thereabouts, the greatest Number in one Inn not to be above seven or eight; and there to be ready till the King should be returning in the Evening. The Deponent says, that in the Beginning of the said Consultations on or about the fifth Instant it was discoursed between him this Deponent, the said Sir *George Barclay*, alias *Bartlet*, and the said *Johnson*, alias *Harrison*, about seizing on the King in *Kensington* House, in the Night to have secured the Garden with about forty Men, by Ladders to be provided for that Purpose; and in Case they could not find the King, to have set the said *Kensington* House on Fire, and

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at the same Time to have seiz'd on the Field-Peices, and the Guards about *Whitehall*. This Deponent farther says, he met with Major *Lowick* about the 7th or 8th Instant at the *Cock* in *Bow-Street*, where he the said Major *Lowick* said he would do his best to carry on the said Design, and would be ready on all Occasions, but that he would speak with but one Person at a Time, by Reason of the late Act of Parliament, which makes one Witness of no Effect.

25th February
169⁵/₂.

Richard Fisher.

*Dictus Richardus Fisher jurat
coram me Gulielmo Trumbull.*



Captain

Captain PORTER's Deposition of the 14th of March, 1695.

The Information of Captain George Porter, taken before a Committee of the Lords of the Council, on *Saturday* the 14th of *March*, 1695.

PAPER the Second.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, That about the latter End of *May*, or Beginning of *June* last, there was a Meeting at the *Old King's-Head Tavern* in beyond the *Royal Exchange*, where were present,

The E--- of A-----.

The Lord M-----.

Sir *John Friend*.

Sir *William Perkins*.

Sir *John Fenwick*.

Mr. *Chernock*.

Mr. *Cooke*,

And this Informant.

The

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The above mentioned Persons dined there, and Mr. *Goodman* came into their Company after Dinner.

Several Things were talked of before Dinner concerning the best Ways of bringing back King *James*; and after Dinner; several Proposals having been made, it was agreed on by the whole Company, to send Captain *Chernock* to King *James*, which he accepted of; and he was to desire King *James* in all their Names that he would borrow ten thousand Men of the King of *France*, viz. eight thousand Foot, one thousand Horse, and one thousand Dragoons; and it was said in the Company, that if the King of *France* meant well to King *James*, he could not refuse him so small a Number of Men: That there were very few Forces then left in *England*, and there were a great many People dissatisfied, and therefore they could not choose a fitter time. *Chernock* said, he did not care to go upon a foolish Message, and desired to know what he might assure King *James* of from them: Whereupon the above-mention'd Persons answer'd, they could make at least two thousand Horse among them; and they all rose up and desired *Chernock* to assure King *James*, that upon Notice from him where he intended to land, they would be sure to meet him with that Number of Horse.

About a Week after, all the above-mention'd Persons (except the Lord *M-----*) met at Mrs. *Mountjoy's*, a Tavern, next Door, or very near Sir *John Femwick's* House. Mr. *Chernock* had desired that Meeting to be satisfied before he went, whether they kept to the

the former Resolution of meeting King *James* with two thousand Horfe; and they all agreed to it, and desired to beg of the King to make what haste he could.

Chernock told this Informant, he would go away for *France* in two or three Days after this Meeting.

This Informant did not see *Chernock* again, 'till he was committed for the Riot; and about four or five Days after his Commitment, *Chernock* came to see him, and told this Informant, he had been in *France* and had seen the King, and that the King's Answer to their Proposal was, That he took it very kindly, but could not do any thing that Year; and *Chernock* told this Informant, that he had brought several Messages from the King to my Lord A-----, Sir *John Fenwick*, and several other Persons of Quality that he did not name.

G E O R G E P O R T E R.

Jurat 14 March 1695.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Informa-

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Information of Captain GEORGE PORTER, given upon Oath before a Committee of the Lords of the Council at Whitehall, the 3^d of March 169⁵.

PAPER the Third.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, That he knows Sir *George Barclay*; that the first time he saw him since his last coming into *England*, was about a Month ago at this Informant's Lodgings, at Mrs. *Conant's* House in *Norfolk-Street*, and that *Chernock*, who lodg'd in the same House, brought him to him; and Sir *George Barclay* told this Informant, that he came from *France* about three or four Months before.

That this Informant has heard Sir *George Barclay* say, that he came over to put in Execution a Design upon the King's Person.

That *Chernock* told this Informant, that the said Sir *George Barclay* had eight hundred Pounds given him by Mr. *Caryll*, Secretary to King *James*, for providing Men and Horses for an Atremp^t upon the King's Person; and this Informant has heard Sir *George Barclay* complain of the smallness of the Sum for such a Design.

That

That *Sir George Barclay* told this Informant, he intended to buy forty Horfes; but finding they had provided some, he would buy but twenty.

That *Chernock* told this Informant, that *Sir George Barclay* had a Commission from King *James* for an Attempt upon the King's Person, and that *Sir William Perkins* had read it, and that the Commission was all of King *James's* Hand Writing, and that it run for Raifing and Levying War upon the Person of the King.

Sir William Perkins own'd to this Informant, that he had seen the Commission, and *Sir George Barclay* told this Informant, that he had such a Commission.

This Informant faith further, That besides the twenty Horfes provided by *Sir George Barclay* for this Design, as is above mention'd, *Chernock* undertook to provide eight Horfes, *Sir William Perkins* five.

This Informant undertook for seven, and Major *Loick* was to find three Horfes for himself and two Persons more, whereof *Bertram* was one, as he heard *Chernock* say.

That three of *Sir William Perkins's* Horfes were to be mounted by *Chambers*, *Lee*, and another Person, who was a Servant of the said *Sir William*, but this Informant doth not know his Name; and *Sir William Perkins's* other two Horfes were to be mounted by two Persons, that this Informant was to provide.

This

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This Informant heard Sir *George Barclay* say, that about twenty or twenty two Persons were come from *France*, who had been Officers and were to be concern'd in this Design; and that some of them came over before him, some with him, and the rest after him.

This Informant saith further, That several Consultations had been held as to the manner of Attacking and Affassinating the King.

That these Consultations were held, some at this Informant's Lodgings in *Norfolk-Street*, others at the *Globe Tavern* in *Hatton-Garden*, at the *Sun Tavern* in the *Strand*, and at the *Nagg's-Head* in *James-Street Covent-Garden*.

That at the Consultation at this Informant's Lodging, were present Sir *George Barclay*, *Homes*, *Chernock*, and this Informant.

That at the Consultations, besides the Persons above mention'd, were present Sir *William Perkins*, *Rookwood*, *King* and *Knightly*, and that these several Consultations had been held within these three Weeks, or a Month, or thereabouts.

This Informant saith further, That there had been two Ways propos'd for Affassinating the King; the one by an Ambuscade of Foot, to be laid in a Wood not far from Mr. *Lattin's* Lodge, near *Richmond*.

The other Way was by a Number of Men on Horseback, who should attack the Guards and the Coaches, as the King came from *Richmond* some *Saturday*, and it was resolv'd to wait for him upon *Turnham-Green*;

Green; this latter Way was best approved of and agreed to.

Some Days before *Saturday* the 15th of *February* last, this Informant, *King*, and *Knightly*, went to view the Ground at *Turnham-Green*, and about *Richmond*, and gave an Account thereof the same Night to *Sir George Barclay*, and others, at the *Nagg's-Head*: A Day or two after that *Durant* went to *Turnham-Green* and *Brentford*, and took a List of the Inns and Stables upon and near to *Turnham-Green*, and that this Informant was to be with the rest of the Men at *Brentford*; that *Rookwood* was to be with *Sir George Barclay*, and *Chernock* was to be with this Informant.

This Informant says, That *Sir George Barclay* told him, that there were two orderly Men appointed to wait at *Kensington*, to give Notice when the King went a Hunting.

That *Chambers* was one of them, as he told this Informant, and to that End he took a Lodging near the Guards at *Kensington*, and he was to give Notice when the King went out.

The other Person was *Durant*, a *Walloon*, who was to give Notice when the Guards went.

This Informant saith further, That the Persons employ'd in this Design were to be divided into three Parties. It was intended that two of them should attack the Guards with their Swords only, and the third Party at the same time were to set upon the Coach, where the King should be.

Rookwood

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Rookwood was to command one of the Parties to attack the Guards, and this Informant the other.

That Sir *George Barclay* was to be at the Head of eight or ten Men, who should set upon the Coach where the King was; and it was said and agreed among them, that they would cut off the King, and all that were with him in the Coach.

That this Informant hath a Musketoon, which carries above six Bullets, and he told *Pendergrafs*, who was to be of Sir *George Barclay's* Party, that he should have it with him.

Sir *George Barclay* told this Informant, that when the King should be at *Richmond*, he had ordered a Man to wait at *Que-Ferry*, who should give Notice when the Guards came back thither, to stay for the King, to the End that every Body might get ready.

It was agreed among them, that when Notice should be brought them of the King's going to *Richmond*, that all concerned should then slip out of Town by three or four in a Company, and set up their Horses in the Inns marked out at *Turnham-Green* and *Brentford*, 'till they had Notice of his coming back.

This Informant remembers that it was an Expression used, but he cannot recollect by whom, that assaulting the King in this manner, was no more than attacking him in his Winter Quarters, or than killing him as he was passing from one Town to another in *Flanders*.

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This Informant saith further, That *Knightly, King, Homes,* and *Durant*, were to be of Sir *George Barclay's* Party.

Chernock told this Informant, that *Counter*, who was lately come from *France*, was to be another of Sir *George Barclay's* Party; and also *Bertram*, whom *Chernock* told this Informant he hoped to have, but *Loick* had carried him to Sir *George Barclay*.

Chernock further told this Informant, he had sent for *Thomas* and *Bevill Higgons* out of the Country, and had proposed the Business to them, but they refused to be concerned in an Attempt upon the King's Person.

This Informant saith further, That *Cranburn, Keyes, Pendergraff,* and *Kendrick*, knew of the intended Assassination, and that he told them of it; and they promised to go along with him.

This Informant saith further, that the Day before he went to view the Ground at *Turnham-Green* and *Richmond*, he dined at the *Nagg's-Head* in *James-Street*, with Sir *George Barclay*, Sir *William Perkins*, Sir *John Friend*, *Ferguson*, and *Homes*; that *Chernock* either dined there or came in after Dinner; that *Harrison*, alias *Johnson*, a Priest, came to them after Dinner; that they discoursed there privately one among another, of the Design upon the King's Person, and enquir'd what Men and Horses each could provide, and it was talked publicly among them all of the Preparations that were making in *France* all along the Sea Coast: Those who talked about the

H

Design

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Design in private, were Sir *George Barclay*, Sir *William Perkins*, *Chernock*, and this Informant. Sir *John Friend* observing their Whispers said, he desired to be fairly dealt with, that he was as ready to serve the King as any Man, and that he fancied something was behind the Curtain, that was concealed from him.

It was then Sir *George Barclay* whisper'd to this Informant, that the Duke of *Berwick* had been here, and said he would not have told him of it, but that he was gone over again.

This Informant saith further, that on *Friday* the 14th Instant, this Informant, to the best of his Remembrance, dined at the *Blue Posts* in *Spring-Garden*, but he positively says, he sent for *Kendrick* to come to him where he dined; and this Informant told *Kendrick* to be in a readiness to go out with him next Day, and he would provide him a Horse, and bid him bring *Sherburne* with him: That accordingly *Kendrick* brought *Sherburne* the next Morning, and this Informant then told *Kendrick* of the Design to Assassinate the King, and *Kendrick* agreed to go with him: But word being brought that the King did not go out that Day, this Informant bid *Kendrick* be in a readiness against the *Saturday* following; and he promised he would.

This Informant saith further, that *Keyes* hath lived with him a Year and a half; that this Informant acquainted him with the Design of Assassinating the King, and employed him to hire Horses for that Purpose: That the said *Keyes* had hired him two Horses for *Saturday*

turday the 15th of *February*, when the Execution was to be done; and had likewise enquired for Horfes for *Saturday* the 22d of *February*: That the said *Keyes* was to have been mounted by this Informant, and to have gone out with him, and to have the same Arms the others had, *viz.* a Sword and Pistols.

This Informant saith further, he sent for *Pendergrafs* out of *Hampshire* some Days before the 15th of *February*, and acquainted him with the Assassination of the King, and he agreed to be one concerned.

This Informant saith further, That he sent for *Plowden* out of *Hampshire*, who came up some Days before the 15th of *February*; that this Informant acquainted the said *Plowden* with this Design against the King, and he agreed to go with him on *Saturday* the 15th of *February*. *Plowden* brought up a Horse of his own, and this Informant lent him a Saddle, and Pistols. The said *Plowden* came to this Informant, to the *Blue-Posts* in *Spring-Garden* on *Saturday* the 15th of *February*, in order to go out with him that Day; but the Business being disappointed by the King's not going a Hunting, *Plowden* told this Informant, he would go out of Town, and be back again the *Thursday* or *Friday* following; but he did not come as he had promised.

On *Friday* the 21st of *February* last, this Informant was at the *Sun-Tavern* in the *Strand* with Sir *George Barclay*, Sir *William Perkins*, and *Cherrock*, and they had a great deal of Discourse about

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the Disappointment of the *Saturday* before; some were afraid the Design had been discovered, others said, if it were so, they should not be together as they were; and it was again resolved among them, that if the King went a hunting the next Day, he should be assassinated; and it was agreed it should be done in the same manner as had before been resolved on. Sir *George Barclay* told this Informant, that Notice would be brought to him, if the King went out, and this Informant should be acquainted with it.

While this Informant was at the said Tavern, *Kendrick*, *Keys*, and *Cranburne* came to him thither, and this Informant was with them in another Room. This Informant then acquainted them, that the Design of assassinating the King would be put in Execution the next Day, if he went a hunting. *Kendrick* came thither with his Arm tied up, and said, he had got a Fall into a Cellar, or some Building, which had disabled him; and he was sorry he could not go with him. This Informant asking *Kendrick* for *Sherburne*, he said, he asked so many Questions that he did not like him, and so he let him alone. Sir *William Perkins* sent word to this Informant, on *Saturday* the 22d of *February*, in the Morning, that if he wanted three Horses, Mr. *Lewis*, Gentleman of the Horse to my Lord *Feversham*, would help him to them, and that there were three lusty Geldings in *Somerset-House-Yard*, and one of them had all Furniture ready.

The

The said Informant saith further, That Sir *William Perkins* formerly told him, that the said *Lewis* had provided him 30 or 40 Saddles, which he did under Colour of buying them for the Marquis of *Miermont*, as Sir *William Perkins* believed.

While this Informant was at the *Blue-Posts* in *Spring-Garden* on *Saturday* the 22d, *La Rue* and *Brierly* brought him each of them a Man, that were to go along with him that Day; and Notice being brought again, that the King did not go out, the said Persons said, they hoped they should go some other Time. *Keyes* bringing this Informant Word, that the Guards were come back all in a Foam, he concluded the Business was discovered, and went out of Town within half an Hour after, and then went and concealed himself at a House he had been told of by *Carter* and *Davis*, two Persons he had known in *Newgate*, who were committed for counterfeiting the *Bank-Notes*.

This Informant saith further, That Sir *William Perkins* hath a Commission from King *James* for a Regiment of Horse, as Sir *William Perkins* told him. Sir *William Perkins* and *Chernock* told this Informant, that Sir *John Friend* had a Commission from King *James* for a Regiment of Horse, and that *Blaire*, who is his Lieutenant-Colonel, had procured it for him; and this Informant has heard Sir *John Friend* own he had a Commission, and would be in a readines.

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This Informant saith, that *Chernock* is Colonel *Parker's* chief Correspondent, and that he told him 300 *l.* was paid for *Parker's* Escape, but he doth not know to whom.

Chernock told this Informant, that Sir *John Friend* had paid 100 *l.* towards *Parker's* Escape; and this Informant says, that Sir *John Friend* owned the same to him when they din'd together at the *Nagg's-Head*, as also, that King *James* had sent him back the Money by a Messenger, but he durst not ask him for it, and therefore he had only received 20 *l.* of it.

Chernock further told this Informant, that Mr. *Tempest* of *Durham* had a Commission from King *James* for a Regiment of Dragoons, and that he had every Thing in a Readiness.

This Informant saith further, that he was to have the first Troop in the King's Regiment of Horse, whereof *Parker* is Colonel, and that *Parker* brought him over the Commission, as also Commissions for his Lieutenant and Cornet, and that he had told Mr. *William Howard* he should be his Lieutenant, and Mr. *Luke Norton*, that he should be his Cornet, and that he had Commissions for them, but never delivered them out.

This Informant saith further, that *Goodman* had a Commission from King *James* for a Troop in *Parker's* Regiment, and that he was provided with Arms and Saddles, and that this Informant gave *Goodman* the Commission seal'd up,

This

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This Informant saith further, that he and *Goodman* had had Discourses two Years ago, about a Design to seize, or carry off the King, and that they had acquainted Sir *George Barclay* with it, who was then going for *France*, that he might propose it to King *James*.

This Informant saith further, that on *Saturday* the 15th of *February*, *Durant* came to him all in Dirt, having rid from *Kensington* to acquaint him the Guards were gone out; and on the 22d of *February*, this Informant sent a List of the Men he had ready to *Chernock*, by *Cranburne*, who brought him back the same List, with the Names of *Chernock's* Men inserted, which this Informant afterwards tore, when he found the Business was disappointed.

This Informant saith further, that Sir *George Barclay* propos'd to them, that when the Assassination should be over, they should keep together till they came to *Hammer Smith*, and then disperse, and get into the Town by several Ways, in small Companies, and they should not need to lie long conceal'd, there being a sudden Invasion expected.

Jurat 3. die Mar. 1695
Coram me Ja. Vernon.

GEORGE PORTER.

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*Some Depositions of Francis de la Rue
against several of the Conspira-
tors, who intended to murder his
Majesty.*

PAPER the FOURTH.

Copy. **I**N the Year 169⁴, in the Months of *Janu-
ary, February, March*, and to within very
few Days of the King's going to *Flanders*, there
were several Meetings between Sir *William Perkins*,
Porter, Chernock, Goodman, and Stow, to contrive
how to carry the King's Person alive to King *James*
in *France*, which *Porter* told the Deponent, that
they had offer'd that King to do, if he would send
them a Commission for it, which was expected a
long Time; and that their Design was, if they could
not carry him away alive, to kill him, and pretend
it was done by a Random Shot, in firing at the
Guards; but the Commission not coming, *Porter*
told this Deponent, they would do it without be-
ing provided with Horses and Men; but they could
not get a Vessel ready time enough before the
King departed for *Flanders*, to carry them off af-
ter the Execution of their barbarous Design; which

put

Paper the FOURTH.

put an End to their Project that Year. Most of this Design was imparted to the Deponent, by *Porter*; he also was in the Company of *Chernock*, Sir *William Perkins*, *Porter*, and *Stow*, three or four Times, when it was talked on, though *Chernock* often told him, that he believed the Design would come to nothing.

This Deponent further declares another wicked Design against his Majesty's sacred Person, which was to have been put in Execution on *Saturday* Evening, being the 15th of *February*, 1695, at the King's Return from hunting, by 45 or 46 Persons, most of them having been Officers under King *James*; but they were prevented that Day by some Impediments and Oppositions in their Cabals, &c. besides, the King did not go a hunting that Day, and therefore it was deferred till next *Saturday*, being the 22d of *February*. The chief of these Conspirators, as the Deponent was informed by Captain *Porter*, and Lieutenant *King*, were, Sir *George Barclay*, *Chernock*, and *Porter*, which procured their several Numbers. Sir *George Barclay* was the Commander in Chief, having brought over from *France* a Commission from King *James*, which as they told this Deponent, was to attack the Prince of *Orange* his Person, in Winter-Quarters, which Commission was interpreted by a Council of War, held at *St. Germain's*, to take off the King by what Means they could; to which End he came into *England* with a Brigadier of King *James's* Guard, named *Rookwood*,
and

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and a Sub-Brigadier, with 16 chosen Men out of the two Troops, and was recommended to *Porter* and *Chernock*, as fit Persons to consult and advise with, having laid a Scheme, and contrived the Matter the last Year, and who was also to assist *Sir George* with their Friends to make up a Party strong enough; and they went to view the Roads several times, and to pitch upon the fittest Place to attack the King's Person and Guards; as also *Durance*, *King*, and *Knightly* went several times towards *Brentford*, *Richmond*, and *Turnham-Green*, to the same Purpose, as *King* and *Porter* told this Deponent, and he was asked to go with them several times, but he neglected it, where they would have shewed him the several Ways and Places they proposed for the Execution of this wicked Design, viz. by an Ambuscade near the King's House at *Richmond*, with a Party of Horse at a distance to come up and attack the Guards upon notice from the Ambuscader's Fire, or all to attack his Majesty by Day all on Horseback, &c. But at last it was agreed to do it at *Porter's* old Place, as he told the Deponent, which was at the End of the Lane in the Night, coming into *Turnham-Green*, which was to be done, viz. *Sir George*, with Eight (of which Number was *Pendergrass*) was to attack the King's Coach, and assassinate every Body that was within it, and in the other Coach, and the Officer of Guards with the two Troopers on the Van-Guard, whilst in the Rear *Rookwood* with his Party of one Side of the Lane, and *Por-*

ter and *Chernock* with their Party that they procured here, of the other Side of the Lane, was to attack the Body of Guards. This Deponent does further testify, that *Porter* sent to him on the *Friday* Night, being the 21st of *February*, to meet him and others to consult and prepare every Thing, in order for marching to the Places where they was to quarter in *Brentford*, and about *Turnham-Green*. The next Day, they having billeted every Man's Quarters, and that *Porter* had engaged the Deponent about the Middle of the Week, to lie with him that Night in some private Place; but the Deponent had Business, and was from Home on *Friday* Night, but was sent for the next Morning at Eight of the Clock, by *Porter*, to desire him to come to his Lodgings; where he the Deponent went, and *Porter* told him all Parties were ready to march in the Afternoon, if the King went Abroad, which they should know soon from their orderly Men at *Kensington*, for that Sir *George* had *Durance* for his orderly Man there, and he and *Chernock* had *Chambers* for their orderly Man, who had been there all the Week. Soon after came into *Porter's* Lodgings others of the Party, as *Cranburn*, *Pendergrafs*, *Keyes*, and *King*, the latter of which just came from Sir *George* with a Message to *Porter*, and then *Porter* took a Piece of Paper, and wrote a List of his Men, which was sent by *Cranburn* (who he called his Quarter-Master) to Mr. *Chernock*, to send to order so many Horses and Arms to be ready for them; and

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and when *Cranburn* came back, he told *Porter*, that *Chambers*, the orderly Man, had sent Word to *Chernock*, that the King was to go out a hunting between 10 and 11 a-Clock, which *Porter* told us all, with a great deal of Joy. Then *Porter* told the Deponent, that *Pendergrafs* was to be of the Party of the eight that attackt the King's Coach, and said aloud to *Pendergrafs*, that he had a special Piece for him that would carry eight Balls; and *King* said, he hoped he would not fear breaking the Windows; no, I'll have a Finger in him, said *Pendergrafs*. This Deponent further declares, That *Cranburn* brought the List back to *Porter*, and at the Foot of *Porter's* List he saw the List of *Chernock's* Men, both which made about eighteen; and this Deponent told *Porter*, he thought he had more; to which he answered, that they had been disappointed of five or six; but that they should make up forty with *Sir George* his Party, which *King* said was enough of all Conscience to do the Business. But *Porter* asked this Deponent, if he could not supply him with some trusty Men; to which he answered, it was too late, there was not Time to get any; but because he should not mistrust his Inclinations for the Affair in Hand, this Deponent went out, and brought him one to the Place where they dined, which was at the *Blue-Posts* in *Spring-Garden*, where about eleven or twelve a Clock they had Notice that their orderly Man *Chambers* was come back, and that the King did not go: And *Keyes*, *Porter's* Trumpet, came up
soon

soon after, and told the Company that the Party of Guards was returned, and passed by foaming, and the King's Coaches were returned, and that the People wonder'd that the King had missed going a Hunting for two *Saturdays* together; which put a Consternation in *Porter* and the rest of the Company, who said there must be some Treachery in it; therefore *Porter* resolved to go to *Epsom* or thereabouts, and asked the Deponent if he would go with him; but he told him he had a Suit in the Commons, which was to be heard on *Tuesday*, therefore he took *Pendergrass* and his Trumpet, to come up again the next Day to give *Chernock* an Account where to send to him in Case there should be an Occasion. The Deponent further declares, that several disloyal and treasonable Healths were drunk, as Confusion to the King, &c. But one more particular was drunk, since they were frustrated of their Design that Day; *Porter* squeez'd half an *Orange* in this Deponent's Hand, and drank a Bumper to the squeezinng of the *Rotten Orange*, which went round. This Deponent further deposes, that *Porter* tore the List of Names of his Party and *Chernock's*, before he went out of Town, and said they should find no Names about him, and that he had got a great Horseman's Sword and a Buff Coat in a Room ready to put on, when the Orders arrived to mount; but when he went towards *Epsom*, his *Black* carried them Home. This Deponent further declares that *Porter* told him, that there was about five Regiments of Horse and Dragoons about *England*,
and

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and that Sir *William Perkins* had acquainted him within this Fortnight, that he had a Commission for a Regiment of Horse which he was raising, and that he had bought thirty Horses already, and that he was to assist the Party that was to assassinate the King with some of his Horses. This Deponent askt *Porter*, if the three Brothers *Higgins's* was of the Party? he said no, but *Tom Higgins* lik'd the Thing very well, till his Brother *Bevil* dissuaded him from it, declaring it was an Assassination; therefore neither of them would be concerned in it: But *George* the elder, promised to buy two Horses, and the other one a-peice. This Deponent also asked *Porter*, whether *Goodman* was concerned in this Business of murdering the King? because he was in the last Year's Design: He answered him, no, because he would not be contented without being made acquainted with the whole Scheme and Design thereof, therefore they did not communicate it to him, not thinking him easy to comply with their Method, but would be troublesome in opposing their Project, to make them comply with his Manner. This Deponent also declares, that *Porter* told him, that King *James* was at the Head of a good Party of Men upon the Coast in *France*, ready to embark for *England*, and that the Duke of *Berwick* had been here, but was gone back again. *King* also told this Deponent, that the Duke of *Berwick* was here, and he does believe he had the News from Sir *George Barclay*; and when this Deponent talked with *Chernock* about the 18th or 19th of
of

of this Month, he asked him, how went on the Affair in Hand? But he found him very close, and answered, that he believed they had left off the Thoughts of it; for some that were very sanguine and hot, were changed and grown very cold, but he found by *Porter* the same Day, that they were as resolute as ever; but *Chernock* told this Deponent, that the great Affair, (meaning that of King *James's* making a Descent in *England*) he might rely on would be very soon: He also remembers that *Chernock* told him that the other Business, meaning that of murdering the King, he was apprehensive had taken Air, and that the King was acquainted with it; his Majesty not having been Abroad a good while, and that an Affair of such Consequence had been communicated to too many, and that they had delayed the Execution of it too long, both which was dangerous, and therefore he seem'd to be off of the Design; which is all at present that occurs to the Deponent's Memory, save that the List which *George Porter* wrote of his Men, which was sent by *Cranburn* to *Chernock*, and the List which *Chernock* wrote at the Foot of the said *Porter's* List, which was mentioned before by this Deponent, he the Deponent took into his Hand, and read the Names, and several of the said Persons in the said List are as follows,

Porter:

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Porter;
Pendergrafs;
Brierly,
Tucker,
Keyes,
Vicar,
Toby,
De la Rue, this Dep.

Lee,
Bertrum,
Salsbury,
Chambers,
Chernock,
Duglas, the late
Lord Dundee's Chap-
lain.

and says, that the said *Porter* told this Deponent, on *Saturday* the 22^d Instant *February*, that he was disappointed of some of his Men, for that one of them had broke his Arm, and so his Comrade would not come with him, and that two Men that were recommended by Major *Lowick*, and one of them, which he believes to be *Bertrum*, had told his Wife, that *Lowick* was to mount him with Horse and Arms for the King's Service, (meating King *James*,) and that his Wife followed him, crying and roaring to the *Coffee-House*; whereupon one at the *Coffee-House* went to a Justice of Peace and made Affidavit of it, upon which Warrants were granted, and so we are disappointed of four or five, or Words to that Effect.

26 die Feb
169^s.

Francis de la Rue.

Dictus Franciscus de la Rue jurat
coram me Gulielmo Trumbull,

L A R U E's *Paper* 17th. March
1695.

P A P E R the F I F T H.

I N the Year 1693, in the Month of *June* or *July*, Col. *Parker*, Captain *Porter* and my self went in the Dirsk of the Evening to Mr. *Goodman*'s House, where we supped, and *Chernock* was in the Company: After Supper they consulted how to make an Infurrection with the Troops they had ready; which was to be by joining their several little Parties of Horfe, that were in Readiness at several Places in the Country, and then to march to their general Place of Rendezvous to join their *Northern* Friends: And in Order to do this, they that had their Parties in *London*, as I understood *Porter* and *Goodman* had, *Parker* advised that they should take a House or two a little Way out of Town about *Barnet*, where there should be Stabling or a Barn large enough to hold fifty or sixty Horfes, where some of their Parties in *London* were to repair to quarter at, the Night before they were to march forward to join the other Parties above-mentioned; and *Parker* told me, he would form me a Troop of what supernumerary Men he should find, that were above the Compliment of any of the Troops that they were to joyn, and *Parker* desired *Porter* and *Chernock* to forward the *Higgins*'s; for I understood

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by them, that *George Higgins* the elder Brother was to raise a Troop himself, or with his Brothers Assistance, and they were to be his subaltern Officers; and *Porter* was to raise a Troop, and *Goodman* another, and Mr. *Porter* did take a House near *Barnet*, which is called the *Blue-House*; but I was at no more of their Consultations concerning that Affair, being obliged soon afterwards by my Recognizance to appear at the Assizes in *Essex*, in the Month of *July*; where I was convicted of coming from *France* without Leave, tho' I came to *England* with the Lord *Duresley's* Pass, his Majesty's publick Minister at the *Hague*: Notwithstanding which I suffered a whole Year's Imprisonment in *Chelmsford* Goal; and before the Year was expired, Collonel *Parker* was taken up, and sent to the *Tower*, from whence he escaped; therefore I have not seen him since *July* 1693, nor been in any of their Consultations about any Infurrection; all which is Truth to the best of my Knowledge. In Witness whereof, I subscribe my Name this Day, being the 17th of *March*, 1694.

FRANCIS DE LA RUE.

Exami-

*Examination of BERTRAM,
the 3d, and 5th of March, 1695.*

PAPER *the* SIXTH.

THOMAS BERTRAM *being Examined
before a Committee of Lords on the 3d
of March 1695,*

SAITH,

THAT about the 8th or 9th of February last, Chernock invited this Examinant to drink a Glas of Wine with him at his Lodging, at Mrs. Conant's House in *Norfolk-Street*; and when he came thither, Chernock took this Examinant with him into his Closet; and being there alone, Chernock ask'd this Examinant if he would undertake a Business that would answer his Expectation. This Examinant enquiring what it was, Chernock told him, it was to go out with some Company he knew, to see if they could kill the King, or Words to that Effect.

This Examinant saith, That he neither consented to the Proposal, nor did he refuse it; but Chernock told him to be in the Way, or if he went out, that he would leave Word when he might be found.

They went then into another Room, where was a good Deal of Company drinking Wine; he

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remembers Sir *William Perkins* and *Chambers* were there, and there were three other Persons he did not know, and one *Trevors* he saw there, but he believes he knew nothing of the Business.

This Informant observed, That *Chernock* was often called out, and that many came to him, whom he discoursed with in private.

This Informant met *Chernock* on *Saturday* the 22^d of *February* at *Lincoln's-Inn-Back-Gate*, at that Time he was alarm'd with Warrants being out against this Informant and some others; *Chernock* told this Informant to come to him, within half an Hour, for they had as good do the Business for something, as to be chased about for nothing; and this Informant understood by his Discourse, he meant killing the King.

This Informant saith further, That he was with Major *Loick* on the 4th or 5th of *February*, and *Loick* askt him if he would go with him upon a Business, without asking any Questions, and this Informant told him, he would.

This Informant saith further, That he went to *Loick's* Chamber on *Friday* the 14th of *February*, and *Loick* told him he must be ready against the next Morning, and provide himself with Boots and other Necessaries, and gave him a Guinea, and bid him meet him at the *Purl-House* in *Hart-street*, by six a Clock the next Morning; and *Loick* told this Informant, he believed they should attack the King,
and

and that a Horſe ſhould be provided for this Informant.

This Informant ſays, he did not meet *Loick* according to his Appointment, it not being his Intention to be concerned in the Buſineſs; That he met *Loick* on *Sunday* the 16th of *February*, who checkt him for his not coming to him the Day before, and ſaid, ſo it would have been if the King had been in the Field; he thought he meant King *James*; This Informant excuſed himſelf, upon his being wach'd by his Wife that he could not ſtir out; and this Informant had been told by *Spencely* a Coffee-Woman, that there were Warrants againſt himſelf and ſome others.

This Informant ſaith, he did ask *Grymes* whether he had a Mind to a Country Journey, in Company with 30 or 40 more; and that *Grymes* answered, he would go as far as this Informant, and that he believed it was on Account of the *little Man*; but this Informant told him he muſt ask no Queſtions.

This Informant ſays he knows *Leigh*.

This Informant ſays he knows *Durand*, and that he was a very buſy ſtirring Man.

This Informant ſays he knows *Blair*, that he told him he was to be Lieutenant Collonel to Sir *John Friend's* Regiment of Horſe, and that this Informant ſhould be Lieutenant to his Troop; he has told him ſo any Time theſe two Years; the laſt Time *Blair* ſpoke to him about it, was ſix Weeks ago.

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A further Information of B E R-
T R A M, *on the 5th of March*
1695.

T H I S Informant saith further, That at the Time of the *La Hogue* Business, he was acquainted with *Blaire*, and he told this Informant he was concerned with Mr. *Holman*, who lives in *Lincoln's-Inn-Fields*, about raising a Regiment of Horse for King *James*, and that *Blaire* had Money from *Holman*, to defray Charges.

This Informant saith further, he hath known *Chernock* these 7 Years ; That he knew him a Lieutenant in *Parker's* Regiment in *Ireland*, where this Informant was a Trooper : That he had not seen *Chernock* for 5 or 6 Months before he invited him to his House on the 8th, or 9th of *February* last, or thereabout : He then sent for him by *Trevors*, but that this Informant had seen *Chernock* several Times before, meeting him accidentally ; and they always talk'd about King *James*, and what Hopes there was of his coming. That this Informant always found that *Loick* and *Chernock* had a Confidence in him, and made no Scruple of telling him any Thing they knew.

T H O M A S B E R T R A M.

Jurat 3 March 1695.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

The

*The Examination of Brice Blair, of
the Age of 54, taken the 9th of
March, 1695.*

PAPER the SEVENTH.

THIS Examinant saith, He was born in *Scotland*, and bred a Presbyterian ; that at the Age of 28 he went into *Holland*, and was there Corporal of the Gentlemen in Captain *Riddles's* Company ; That he changed his Religion while he was in *Holland*, and turned *Roman Catholick* ; and after that he served in my Lord *Dubarton's* Regiment in *France*. He hath lived in *England* 21 Years : His last Commission was Captain Lieutenant in Sir *Edward Hales's* Regiment.

This Informant says, He has known Father *Harrison*, alias *Johnson*, these five Years ; that he was recommended to his Acquaintance by Sir *Edward Hales* ; That this Examinant hath been frequently with the said Father *Harrison* in several Places, particularly at *Harrison's* Lodgings, at my Lady *Alibone's* in *Brownloe-street* in *Grey's-Inn*, and at Father *James's* Lodgings in *Somerfet-house*.

This Examinant saith, That as long as he was acquainted with the said *Harrison*, he found that he was always a Manager of King *James's* Affairs here, and that he kept a Correspondence with *Milfort*, w hile he

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was in Favour, and since that with Secretary *Caryll*: And this Examinant hath seen several Letters that the said *Harrison* had from both of them, part in Cypher, and part at large. The said *Harrison* was the first Man that employed this Examinant to get all the Men ready that he could against the *la Hogue* Business; and at that time brought this Examinant acquainted with Collonel *Parker*: They met at Mr. *Thornbury's* House in *Bedford-street*, where *Parker* and *Harrison* then lodged together.

That some time after the Beginning of *February* last, this Examinant met Father *Harrison* in *Somerset-house*, being appointed to meet him at six a Clock in the Evening, but he don't remember the precise Day. He askt this Examinant, Whether he knew any Soldiers or Men of Courage, for there might be something done within a little while, that might be an Introduction to King *James's* Restoration, or Words to that Effect. This Examinant said, He knew a few such Men; and this Examinant ask'd, in what manner that Business could be effected: After some Pause the said *Harrison* told this Examinant, that if the *French* Fleet could not come out time enough, the going out of the *English* Fleet might be retarded by King *James's* Friends burning the *Victualling-Office*. This Examinant replied, That was impracticable, or if it were to be done, there were few to be found that would run the Risque; Whereupon the said *Harrison* said to this Examinant, That he would have him as forward in the King's Service as any Man, and that he

was

was told by a Gentleman, and a very good Officer, that if he were sure of but a hundred good Horſe, he would end the War in a Fortnight's time : To which this Examinant reply'd, That the Gentleman might know more than he, but that could not be done by a regular War, nor according to the Rules of true Honour or Arms, but by ſome other Means, which he was afraid to harbour in his Thoughts. Father *Hariſon* ſaid no more, but ſhrunk up his Shoulders, and he did not ſee him for ſome Days after.

This Examinant ſaith, He knows Sir *George Barclay* very well, but hath not ſeen him ſince the Revolution. The firſt that told this Examinant of his being in *England*, was Sir *John Friend*, who told it him at *Jonathans's Coffee-Houſe* about a Month ago or more. Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant, he had been to ſee Sir *George Barclay*, and was going to him again that Day.

Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant, that Sir *George Barclay* had not been long come over.

This Examinant ſaith further, that he went to Father *Hariſon* at *Somerſet-Houſe*, about the 20th of *February* in the Evening : Father *Hariſon* then told this Examinant of ſome Warrants that were out againſt *Bertram*, *Grymes*, *Lee*, and another, whoſe Name he don't remember ; and the ſaid *Hariſon* added, that if that Buſineſs miſcarried it would hinder King *James* from coming : He did not name what Buſineſs he meant ; but this Examinant underſtood it, that it was either Seizing or Aſſaſinating the King, he having
heard

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heard from *Fisher*, that such a Thing was in Agitation, and being confirmed in it by what *Harrison* had said to him of the Hundred, and burning the Victualling Office. This Examinant thereupon told the said *Harrison*, They had brought their Hogs to a fine Market, for now they were all ruin'd. Hereupon the Examinant blaming such a Design, as having neither Authority from God nor Man, the said *Harrison* reply'd, Their was an Authority or Warrant, and that he had seen it; and askt this Examinant if he thought it fit that every body should see it, but he had seen the Authority, and to the best of his Remembrance, he said, it was from King *James*. This Examinant says, his Answer was, He did not think it was in his Nature, meaning King *James*, and immediately after this Examinant took his Leave and came away.

This Examinant says, He knows *Chernock*, but hath not seen him these two Months; he always thought him a rash, hot and violent Man, and did not care for him. *Chernock* owned to this Examinant last Summer, that he was newly come from *France*. This Examinant saith, He hath known Sir *William Perkins* above a Year; that Sir *John Friend* brought him into his Acquaintance, and that they sometimes dined together; he found both *Friend* and *Perkins* great *Melfordians*.

This Examinant saith, He told Sir *John Friend* what *Fisher* had told him concerning the Assassination; he said he had heard it, and was sorry for it;
for

Paper the SEVENTH. III

for he was afraid it would ruin King *James's* Affairs, and all his Friends. This Discourſe paſt at *Jonathan's Coffee-houſe*, when this Examinant called Sir *John Friend* aſide to another Room.

At the ſame time of the *la Hogue* Buſineſs, Collonel *Parker* ſent this Examinant to Mr. *Holman*, to ſee what he would do for King *James's* Service : The ſaid *Holman* told this Examinant, he had heard a good Character of him from Sir *Edward Hales*, and he would ſend Captain *Hastings* to him ; and *Hastings* came to this Examinant, and brought him to *Holman*, who told him he would raiſe a Regiment of Horſe if he could, and that he would act by his former Commiſſion ; and he ſent this Examinant, *Cole*, *Mitten*, and *Hastings*, about for Men, and gave this Examinant 130 *l.* towards his Charges ; and this Examinant believes he had at that time engaged near 200 Men ; and this Examinant was to command the Men he brought in ; he promiſ'd *Bertram* to be his Lieutenant, who likewise engag'd ſome Men.

This Examinant ſaith, That one *Edmonds* a Weaver in *Bridgwater-Square*, firſt brought this Examinant into Sir *John Friend's* Acquaintance, about four Years ago : That this Examinant hath been very intimate with Sir *John Friend* ſince that time. Father *Harrifon* aſking this Examinant if he knew any rich Citizens, that would be hearty in King *James's* Service, this Examinant named Sir *John Friend* ; and thereupon the ſaid *Harrifon* writ to *Melford* in Sir *John's* Favour, and he had a very favourable Answer,
and

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and that King *James* was well satisfied that Sir *John Friend* continued stedfast to him.

That this Examinant could not induce Sir *John Friend* to write into *France*; but he afterwards told him he had writ, and he supposes it was upon Colonel *Fountain's* Perswasion, with whom *Ferguson* brought him acquainted about three Years ago. Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant, that he had writ to King *James*, and had received a kind Letter from him.

This Examinant saith further, That Sir *John Friend* told him, he had been often in Company with the E--- of A-----, E--- of L-----, E--- of Y-----, and Lord M-----; and this Examinant believes that Collonel *Fountain* brought him into their Acquaintance, for he verily believes he was not known to these Persons till he knew *Fountain*.

This Examinant says further, That about two Years ago Sir *John Friend* receiv'd a Commission from King *James* for a Regiment of Horse; That the same Commission was brought him by one *Nicholas Pigott*, a great Acquaintance of Mr. *Nosworthy's*, who was us'd to go and come from *France*. This Examinant saw the Commission in Sir *John Friend's* Hands, it was upon Paper printed, with a little Seal in the Margin, Sign'd *James R.* and Counter-sign'd *Melfort*. That Sir *John Friend* seemed to be well pleased with it, and told this Examinant he should be his Lieutenant Collonel, and employ'd him to see if he could get Men ready to mount against the time the
King

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King should land; and he hath given this Examinant about 100 *l.* to drink with the Men and treat them.

Sir *John Friend* left it in a great Measure to this Examinant to find out Men, who could bring in Troopers ready mounted, either by their Money or by their Interest, or by both; and this Examinant propos'd *Fisher* to him, and *Vernatti*, who undertook to raise each of them a Troop. Sir *John Friend* chose *Richardson*, who is a Merchant in the City, and Sir *John* told this Examinant he would raise a Troop.

This Examinant recommended *Hall* to be a Captain, who is a Merchant at *Deal*, at the Desire of his Brother-in-law one *Robinson*, who lives likewise at *Deal*, and is concerned in weighing of Wrecks. This *Hall* own'd to this Examinant, he had forty Men ready that would mount themselves.

This Examinant had engag'd in Words fifty or sixty Men, for his Troop, and *Bertram* was to be his Lieutenant: Some of the Men said they had as much Money as would buy a Horse; some said they would borrow a Horse; and some said they would go into the first Stable and take a Horse.

Some of the Men this Examinant had engaged were, *John Reyner*, a Stocking-Weaver in *Pettycoat-lane*.

Knight, a Hatter in *Shoreditch*.

Cook, a Watchmaker in *Hackney*.

Buckle, a Bit-maker at *Charing-Cross*.

Wilson, a Taylor of *Shoreditch*.

Harris, Clark of the *Stocks-market*.

About

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About six Weeks ago, when the Discourse began to be hot about setting out the *Thoulon* Fleet, Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant, he would not meddle with raising his Regiment 'till he heard King *James* was landed.

Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant formerly, that there were Abundance of pretty brisk Men would follow him from the City, and particularly from the Temple.

That this Examinant propos'd to Mr. *Barnesly*, who had been a Lieutenant of Horse in King *James's* Time, in Sir *John Fenwick's* Regiment, to be Major to Sir *John Friend*: He now keeps a Coffee-house over against *Turn-Style* in *Holbourn*; he sometimes refus'd, and sometimes accepted.

Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant some time since, that Sir *John Fenwick* had four Troops in a readines.

This Examinant saith, That the Design of the Invasion was conceal'd from him as well as the Assassination. That he did not expect there would be any Rising in *England*, 'till the *Thoulon* Fleet came about; and then he supposes all the Jacobites in *England* would have prepar'd themselves, and their general Discourses were to that effect.

BRYCE BLAIR.

Jurat 17th March, 1695.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Brice

Brice Blair's *Information, the 9th of*
March, 1695.

Concerning the Assassination, or Seizing his
Majesty's Person.

PAPER the EIGHTH.

I WENT to see Mr. *Harrison* a little after Sir
George Barclay came from *France*, who told me,
that there might be something done in a little time,
which I forgot in my former Deposition, and which
might be an Introduction to King *James's* Restora-
tion. I ask'd after what manner that Business could
be effected; and after some Pause he told me, That if
King *James* could not come time enough, his Friends
might burn the *Navy Victualling-Office*, wherein the
Provisions for the Mouth lay, which might retard
the *English* Fleet from getting to Sea for a considera-
ble time. I told him, being amaz'd to hear such
Words proceed from a Priest's Mouth, that it was not
practicable, and if it were, there would be few found
that would run the Risque. He told me, that he
would have me as forward in the King's Service as any
Man,

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Man, and that he was told by a Gentleman, and a very good Officer, that if he was but sure of a hundred Horse, he would end the War in a Fortnight's time. I answer'd, That the Gentleman might know a great deal more than I, but that hehoved to be done not by a regular War, nor according to the true Laws of Honour or Arms, but by some other Means, which I was afraid even to harbour in my Thoughts. I saw Mr. *Bertram* once in the City, and if I am not mistaken, Mr. *Fisher* was in the House at the same Time, and in the same Room; he call'd me into the next Room, and I ask'd him, before he could speak to me, if I am not mistaken, Why I did not see him of a long while, and that I was afraid he was upon some desperate Design; He made me little or no Answer, but wish'd he had seen me sooner, or Words to that Effect; and I beg'd of him for God's sake, if he were dipp'd, to fly, and never be concern'd further. This is what occurs to my Memory concerning the Assassination and Invasion.

As to the Seizing the *Tower*, I shall only add, that I have heard Sir *John Friend* say, That upon an Invasion, if ever the standing Troops went out of the *Tower*, and the Hamlet Militia were entrusted with the same, the Veteran Troops should hardly ever re-enter; and that he was as well assured of my Lord *Lucas's* Lieutenant Collonel, as he was of any Man in *England*.

I forgot

I forgot to acquaint my Lord Chancellor and the Secretary of State with one particular Passage, and it was this : In a Discourse betwixt Mr. *Fisher* and I, he was talking of Sir *Ralph Dutton*, how discontented a Man he was, and that he was a Man of great following and Interest in his Country ; and after a great deal of Talk of this Nature, I ask'd him if he thought he would accept of King *James's* Commis- sion ? Mr. *Fisher* answer'd me readily, he did not doubt but he would. Whereupon I went to Mr. *Harrison* and acquainted him with the Thing, who at first told me he doubted not but to obtain it, and thereupon wrote over to Secretary *Caroll*, and had a Promise of one, but never received any ; but whether this was a real Design in the Knight and *Fisher*, or whether it was a Trap for me, I leave it to the Judgment of the King and his Council.

As to Colonel *Holman*, I cannot think of any thing at present, more than that Major *Mitten* and Captain *Hastings*, were concern'd with the Colonel as well as I.

As to what my Lord Chancellor did hint to me concerning my Countrymen, and that I had not made any mention of them, I have ruminated upon it, and it just now comes fresh into my Memory, that it can be no other than Sir *Andrew Forster*, who did me the Favour to give me a Meeting a few Days before this damned, hellish Business broke out ; he has been in Town above this Half Year. I do not know the Se-

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crets of his Heart, but on my Conscience I believe the Gentleman is here on no ill Design, but only thrust from *St. Germans*, either by a prevalent Party, or his own pressing Affairs, and flighted here by King *James*, and his greatest Friends.

BRYCE BLAIR.

Jurat 17 March, 1695.
Coram me Ja. Vernon.



Mr.

Mr. HARRIS's Information 28th
March, 1696.

The Information of George Harris.

PAPER the NINTH.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, That he was an Ensign of Foot under the late King *James* in *Ireland*; That he has served since in the Second Troop of his Guards in *France*; That about the 14th of *January* last, N. S. King *James* sent for this Informant and *Hare* his Comrade; That King *James* spoke with them in the late Queen's Bed-Chamber, and told this Informant, that he had an Opportunity of doing something for him, being very sensible he had serv'd him well; That he would send him into *England*, where he should be subsisted, and that he was to follow Sir *George Barclay's* Orders, and in so doing, that he would take care of him: That he had ordered them Money for their Journey, which they should receive from Mr. *Carroll* (who is Secretary to the late Queen.) King *James* told this Informant further, That he should find Sir *George Barclay* every *Monday* and *Thursday*, between Six and Seven at Night, in *Covent-Garden-Square*, and that they might know him

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by a White Handkerchief hanging out of his Coat-Pocket: King *James* pulling a List out of his Pocket, told this Informant, when he was in *England* he must go by the Name of *Jenkins*, and *Hare* by the Name of *Guinney*. Colonel *Parker* was by, all the Time when King *James* spoke to this Informant; and by the King's Order Colonel *Parker* went with this Informant and his Comrade to Mr. *Caroll's*; and Mr. *Caroll* told them, that the King had ordered them Ten *Louis d'Ors* a-piece, which would be enough to carry them over; and if they should chance to be Wind-bound, he had writ to the President *Tosse* at *Calais*, to furnish them with Money for their Subsistence; and accordingly they went to *Calais*, and staying there some Time for a Wind, their Landlady was paid by the said President, who also sent Captain *Gill* to them (who is Master of a *Chaloupe*, that is us'd to go to and fro for Intelligence). The Wind coming fair, they embarked on Board the said *Chaloupe*, about Nine in the Morning, and sail'd along the *French Coast* down as low as *Bologne*, and about two in the Afternoon, they stood directly for *England*, and about one of the Clock next Morning they landed in *Kent*, near the House of one *Hunt*. Captain *Gill*, with about Fifteen of his Men went a-shore with them (leaving only two Boys in the Vessel;) they arm'd themselves like Soldiers, each having his Fire-lock and Collar of Bandileers; they were carried to Mr. *Hunt's* House, who
pro-

provided them with Horfes : There was a Person there in the same Houfe, who was going over for *France* ; they did not see him, but *Hunt* carried some Messages between them, about exchanging Guineas for *Louis d'Ors*. They continued at *Hunt's* Houfe 'till three in the Morning ; and as soon as the Horfes came, they mounted, and rid away to *Teuker's* Houfe at *Sandway-Lane*, where they arriv'd about Eight of the Clock, and from thence they went, as they were directed, to *Charles Cross's* at *Rocheſter* : *Berkenhead* came to them at *Teuker's* Houfe, and came to them to *Rocheſter*, where they arriv'd bout Seven next Morning ; and they came from thence together in the *Graveſend-Coach*, and ſo took Boat for *London*.

This Informant ſays further, That the next Night after they came to *London*, he and his Comrade *Hare* went to look for *Sir George Barclay* in *Covent-Garden-Square*, as they were directed, but miſs'd of him, which they were ſurprized at. They lodg'd at the Sign of the *Unicorn* in *Brownlow-Street* near *Drury-Lane*. This Informant was only known there by the Name of *Jenkins*, but his Comrade being a Man known to the Landlord, went by his own Name of *Hare* ; and he going out the next Day, lighted accidentally upon *Berkenhead*, who told him he had ſeen *Sir George Barclay*, who deſired they would meet him that Night in *Covent-Garden* ; and they went thither accordingly that Night. It rain'd very hard, and one *Hand-*

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ford came to them from *Sir George Barclay*, to bring them to him under the *Piazza*, where they found *Sir George Barclay*, *Major Holms*, and *Berkenhead*: Then *Sir George Barclay* taking his Leave of the others, took this Informant and his Comrade into the little *Piazza*, and after some Enquiry after the King, Queen, Prince, and Princess, he told them, they should take great Care to keep within Doors; that he had no Money for them at present, but would send them some in two or three Days; and *Sir George Barclay* told this Informant, that when there was any Occasion, he would send for them by *Major Holms*, and that they need not give themselves the Trouble of meeting there any more, because it was suspicious.

Major Holms came to this Informant, as *Sir George Barclay* had said, and brought him two Guineas for the Subsistence of *Mr. Hare* and himself; and two or three Days after, he came to their Lodgings again, and gave them four Guineas a-piece, which he told them, with the Guinea they had already receiv'd, made up a Month's Pay, at five Shillings a Day, Guineas then going at thirty Shillings a-piece.

This Informant says, That he and his Comrade met one Evening near the *Dial* in *Covent-Garden*, with *Mr. Holms*, *Mr. Cassel*, *Mr. Richardson*, and *Mr. Handford*, alias *Brown*; that their Discourse was of keeping themselves in their Lodgings, and not stir out in the Day-time.

The

The Persons that this Informant remembers have come out of *France* within three Months are,

Sir *George Barclay*, who went from *St. Germain's* in *December* last; it was then given out, that he was gone to *Paris* to be cur'd of a Clap.

Major *Holms*, who this Informant supposes came along with Sir *George Barclay*, for he did not see him after Sir *George Barclay* was said be gone to *Paris*.

Cassels and *Richardson* went off next, the former giving out, that he would go for the *Scotch* College, and try something else, since the Profession of a Soldier was not more favourable to him; and *Richardson* likewise declared, that he was now weary of the Service: *Cassels* belonged to the first Troop of Guards commanded by the Duke of *Berwick*, and *Richardson* to the second Troop of Guards commanded by the Earl of *Clencarty*.

And when this Informant and his Comrade came away, (who were both of the second Troop of Guards commanded by the Earl of *Clencarty*;) they also gave out they were weary of the Service.

Captain *Counter*, who was lately made Brigadier of the Guards, came over after this Informant.

Mr. *Maxwell* and Mr. *Byerly* came about the same Time that *Counter* did. Mr. *John Maxwell* was in no Post, but liv'd at *St. Germain's*, and was Nephew to Brigadier *Maxwell*, who was killed at the Battle of *Marseille*. *Byerly* came over to be Major to a Regiment that the King had given to

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Mr. *Curwin*; whereof Mr. *Oldfield* was to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

After these came over Brigadier *Rookwood*, and *Bernardi*, which last was upon the List for Lieutenant Colonel's Pay at 25 Sols a Day.

Mr. *Hungate* liv'd at *Paris*, and had an Allowance; he was Nephew to Colonel *Hungate*, who was talk'd of to have a Regiment of Dragoons whenever the King should land.

Mr. *Blackburne*, a *Lancashire* Gentleman, who came out of *England* last Spring, and had 10*d.* a Day allowed him at *St. Germain's*.

There came over likewise Mr. *Handford* of the second Troop of Guards, who came over with Mr. *Hungate*.

There came over likewise Mr. *Baily*, and Mr. *Thorold*, but those Two came over as Men of Service to be employed in Colonel *Curwin's* Regiment of Horse, and to put it upon a good Foot; *Baily* quitted the Post of a Lieutenant in the Grand Prior's Regiment.

The rest were to be under Sir *George Barclay's* Command, and had false Names given them to go by.

This Informant says further, That on *Saturday* the Assassination was design'd (as he understood afterwards), he went to Brigadier *Rookwood's* Lodgings, and he had not been there long, before *Bernardi* came in; he found them in a Hurry, and ask'd what it was they were going about; Mr. *Rook-*
wood

wood told him, if he would go to Mr. *Coumer's*, he would tell him; whereupon this Informant went to Mr. *Coumer's* Lodgings, at a Confectioner's over-against the *Three-Tun-Tavern* in *Holbourn*, where he lay by the Name of *Rumsey*: He found him at Home, and he told him he had Orders for him from Sir *George Barclay*; and that he and Mr. *Hare* must be ready instantly, and go to *Turnham-Green* at the Sign of the *Wool-pack* (as near as he can remember). There were then present Major *Holms*, Mr. *Knightly*, and Mr. *King*. Major *Holms* told this Informant, that his Horse and Mr. *Hare's* stood at *Somerset-House*, and he told *Knightly*, that Mr. *Hungate's* Horse stood there likewise; and Mr. *Knightly* spoke to this Informant, to take care of *Hungate's* Horse, since they stood all together, which he promised to do. Mr. *Knightly* said further, that he left his Comrade at Home, for fear of any Orders coming to the Lodging, that they might not be both out of the Way together.

This Informant says further, That Sir *George Barclay* came in to them, and declared, that these were his Janisaries, and that he hoped they would bring him the Garter; and talk'd something of attacking; upon which this Informant was very much startled, not knowing the Thing: Soon after, *Durant* came in, and told them the Prince of *Orange* did not go out that Day: However Sir *George Barclay* bid Major *Holms* deliver us our Horses; and Mr. *Knightly* answer'd, It would be the best way,
for

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for if any Accident happen'd that the Horses should not come up, it would be imputed as a Fault to the Rider; and therefore it would be much better, that they should ride them out, and give them some Exercise; and they might do it without Suspicion, if they went one or two, and ride out at several Parts of the Town; and if they should chance to meet, they should take no notice one of another. Brigadier *Rookwood*, and Major *Lowick* came at the same time, but they all dispers'd soon after, and Sir *George Barclay*, *Counter*, *Rookwood* and *Holms* went and dined together at the *Black-Lion* in *Holbourn*.

This Informant says further, That he, his Comrade, *Cassels*, *Richardson*, *Handford*, *Meldrum*, and *Maxwell*, were at an *Ale-House* in *St. James's-Street* in *Covent-Garden* the Night before, being the 14th of *February*, where Mr. *Counter* came to them, and delivered to each of them a Case of Pistols, the said *Counter* telling them they were not to stir out of their Lodgings, but to be ready next Morning.

This Informant says further, That he and Mr. *Hare* met Major *Holms* by his Appointment the first *Saturday* at two of the Clock in the Afternoon, at the Stables in *Somerset-House*, where they had each his Horse delivered to them by the said *Holms*, and they carried them to a Stable in *Soho*.

This

This Informant says further, That either on *Saturday* Night or the next Morning, he saw Captain *Rookwood*, and asked him whether they were to be the Murtherers of the Prince of *Orange*, and that they had served to a fair Purpose, to be sent over on such an Account. *Rookwood* replied, That he was afraid they were engag'd in it, but if he had known he had been sent over for that Purpose, he would have begg'd his Majesty's Pardon for not coming.

This Informant says further, That another Time walking in *Red-Lion-Fields* with Major *Lowick*, Major *Bernardi*, and Captain *Rookwood*, they considering what a barbarous Thing it was, *Lowick* said, he would obey Orders, and sure Sir *George Barclay* would not undertake it without Orders; Captain *Rookwood* often repeated, that the King sent him to obey Sir *George Barclay's* Orders: *Bernardi* said the same, as also did the Informant, and *Lowick* again said, he would obey.

This Informant says further, That all the Persons before-mentioned, except *Byerly*, *Baily*, and *Thorold*, had Horses and Arms delivered them by Sir *George Barclay's* Order.

This Informant says further, That he and *Hare* had several Meetings with *Richardson*, *Cassells*, and others, but did not talk about the Business till the *Friday* following; At which Time this Informant was at the *Two Black-Posts* in *Maiden-Lane*, where were likewise *King*, *Richardson*, *Cassells*, *Maxwell*, and *Handford*: Captain *Counter* came to them thither,

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ther, and told them, they must be in readiness the next Morning, and not stir out; whereupon *Cassells* swore, *God damn him, he would have the Plunder of the Field*, crying out, *To-morrow is the Day, Boys!* *King* said, If it did not do To-morrow, he would think of it no more. *Handford* ask'd, how they should make their Escapes after it was done? *Cassells* replied, He must stay with that Party he was ordered with. This Informant then went to his Lodgings to acquaint his Comrade with the Orders given them; and the next Day, being *Saturday*, the 22d of *February*, about Nine in the Morning, Major *Holms* came to them, and told them, they must be ready presently; and he bid this Informant go to Captain *Counter* for Orders; and Major *Holms* gave each of them a Guinea, to pay for their Horses. This Informant then went to Captain *Counter*, and found Captain *Rookwood* with him. *Counter* told this Informant, he was to be one of *Rookwood's* Party; and *Rookwood* gave this Informant a List of Names, and said to him, laughing, He would make him his Aid-de-Camp: In that Note were the Names of this Informant, *Hare*, *Handford*, and *Blackburne*, with Captain *Rookwood's* Name at the Top; and Captain *Rookwood* desired this Informant to go and get those Gentlemen ready; which he did accordingly: and then this Informant coming again to Captain *Rookwood* in *Red-Lion-Square*, to know what Orders he had received from Sir *George Barclay*, *Rookwood*, told him, That Sir *George Barclay* said

said the Prince of *Orange* did not go out that Day; and then he engaged this Informant to dine with him, and *Lowick* and *Bernardi*, which he did at the *Castle*, a *Cook's-Shop* in *Red-Lion-Square*; where Mr. *Lowick* ask'd this Informant, how he came to be in such a Sweat? And this Informant answering, That he had been to get some of Captain *Rookwood's* Party ready; *Lowick* replied, He had got two, which were at a House hard by, and they could not go till he went to discharge them. Major *Lowick* said further, Gentlemen, you have 6s. a Day allowed you, but I have not a Farthing, and yet I bring three Men upon my own Charge. This Informant saying, That was hard, and wondering that he did not speak to Sir *George Barclay* about it; *Lowick* answered, since Sir *George Barclay* did not do it of himself, he would not trouble him. Major *Lowick* likewise told them, that he had Notice given him two or three Days before, by one *Harrison*, not to go to his Lodging, because there was an Information given against him to the Council-Board about this Business.

This Informant says further, That he changed his Lodgings that Night, and went and lay with Mr. *Rookwood* and *Bernardi*, for two or three Nights at their Lodging, at Mr. *Warne's*, in *Red-Lion-Square*; and after that *Rookwood* and *Bernardi* went to the other End of the Town, near the *Tower*, where they were taken and put into the *Compter*; and this Informant shifted from Place to Place till he found
his

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his Name in a Proclamation, and then he furrendred himself.

This Informant says further, That the said *Saturday* Night the Plot was discovered, he was at the *Bear-Tavern* with *Rookwood*, *Knightly*, *King*, *Durant*, and *Boise*, where they talk'd briefly of the Assassination. *Knightly* went out, pretending he had Business, and returned in half an Hour, bringing *Hungate* with him; they whisper'd to Mr. *King* in his Ear, whereupon *King* cried out, Sure God Almighty is on our Side. This Informant asking what was the Matter? they both answered, We must take Care of our selves; and that was the only Time this Informant saw *Boise*, since his coming into *England*.

This Informant says further, That about the Beginning of *February*, he met *Maxwell* and *Cassells* as he was passing over *Covent-Garden*, that he embraced them, and they adjourned to Mr. *Cassell's* Lodgings, where they found *Richardson*, and went to a *Tavern* together, Mr. *Hare* being with them. Mr. *Maxwell* then told this Informant, That Captain *Byerly* was come, and desired to see him: Mr. *Maxwell* likewise acquainted the Company, that Notice being taken at *St. Germans*, that so many of them were gone over, and it being wondered at what they were gone about. King *James* came to hear of it, and thereupon declared at his Levy, that whoever should be found to make mention of any of those Gentlemen, that were gone for *England*,

or

or be inquisitive about them, that he should be severely punished, and never received into Favour again.

This Informant says further, That he went the next Morning to Mr. *Byerly's* Lodgings, at Mr. *Ashwell's*, in *Drury-Lane*, and found him a Bed; and after he had saluted him, Mr. *Byerly* told this Informant, he was sorry he was provided for. This Informant asked him, how? Mr. *Byerly* replied, that Mr. *Parry* had told him, at *St. Germans*, That the King had put him, this Informant, with Sir *George Barclay*, going on, that he had known this Informant a long time, and it now lay in his Power to serve him; That he designed to make him an Aid-Major, and Lieutenant, and had certainly made it his Business to speak to the King about it; but that Mr. *Parry* told him, the King would be very angry at it, since he, this Informant, was already disposed of: Major *Byerly* farther told this Informant, that the King had given Mr. *Curwin*, a Regiment of twelve Troops, and had made Mr. *Oldfield* Lieutenant-Colonel, and himself Major, and had given him a Troop besides, and that his Brother was likewise to be a Captain there; and that he, the said Mr. *Byerly*, went by the Sham Name, *Taylor*, on this Expedition, and that he was going into the *North*: His Landlord, Mr. *Ashwell*, then coming into the Room, he asked him whether he knew of any Stables, for he was going out of Town, and should return within
three

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three Weeks, and bring up some Horses with him. Mr. *Ashwell* said, he would see about it. There was one *Baily* that came out of *France*, and was to have this Informant's Post of Lieutenant, and Aid-Major in the Regiment; and there was one *Thorold* likewise came over, who was to be Lieutenant to Major *Byerly*'s own Troop, and had undertaken to bring him Eight Men. Major *Byerly* further told this Informant, that Mr. *Oldfield*, the Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Captain *Bell*, were going with him into the *North*, and that Mr. *Oldfield* would bring up 3000 *l.* along with him to Town.

Jurat. 31. Mar. 1696.
Coram me Ja. Vernon.

GEORGE HARRIS.



Exami-

Examination of KNIGHTLY

21 Mar. 1695.

PAPER the TENTH.

Copy. **A** Bout 9 Weeeks ago he saw Sir George Barclay, first in *Covent-Garden-Square* in the dark by Appointment; he said, he had done the Business his Master sent him about, but that he had something put into his Head, by which he could do the King farther Service, and asked him if he could get him half a Dozen of honest Fellows, and explain'd himself that he meant Gentlemen.

This Examinant undertook for himself and two more; viz. *King* and *Durant*: *King* sent *Boyce* to him on *Thursday* or *Friday* before the first *Saturday*.

He went to Sir George at his Lodgings over-against *Gray's-Inn*, near the Sign of the *Unicorn*, a Confectioner's, and told him of *Boyce*; and Sir George liked him very well, and desired him to engage him, and present his Service to him.

He met Sir George Barclay several Times, about three'or four Times at the *Black-Posts* in *Cockpit-Alley*. Major *Holms* was there, and *Durant* once.

By Degrees Sir George told what it was; the first was a general Proposal, after that he said, that to facilitate the King's Landing, it was to attack the Prince of *Orange* at the Head of his Guards; he was not determined whether to do it on Foot or Horseback;

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he was of Opinion for two Days to do it on Foot.

Porter sent him a Message Over-Night to go out with him to *Knight's-Bridge*; they met at the *Rose-Tavern*, King, Porter, and he; to the best of his Remembrance, it was on *Wednesday* or *Thursday*; King shewed them the Place at *Turnham-Green* that would be proper for the Attack; then they went to *Brentford*, and King carried them by *Sion* to a *Ferry* over against *Richmond*.

Captain King led them to a House between *Richmond* and *Mortlack*, where they said the King used to go, and shew'd them a little Wood within Pales, and ask'd *Knightly* if it were not fit for an Ambuscade: He said it was the fittest he ever saw; they took a slight View of it as they rode along, and then dined at *Mortlack*: They came that Night to the *Nagg's-Head*; several others came to them there, viz. Sir *George Barclay* and *Chernock*, Sir *William Perkins* came in there too. Sir *George* did not stay long, but then he said he resolv'd it should be on Horseback. He has known Sir *William Perkins* many Years, but he don't know he was engag'd in the Business.

He saw Sir *George Barclay* afterwards at his Lodging, and he told him he was resolv'd to do it on *Saturday*; but upon a Message brought by *Durant* that the King did not go Abroad, nothing was done that Day; the same Thing was carried on to the next *Saturday*. They used to go see Sir *George Barclay* once in two or three Days. He saw there,
Rookwood,

Rookwood, Bernardi, Lowick, Hare, Harris and Counter, these three were of the Guard in *France*; *Hungate* was there too, he was a Gentleman who had liv'd at *Paris*.

Lowick told him he had engaged *Bertram*.

Bernardi was call'd Major, he had seen him in *Ireland*; he supposes he was born in *Holland* or *Flanders*.

He was at *Sir George's* the next *Saturday*.

His Horse was in *Southwark*; *Durant* took Care of both their Horses.

His Pistols were sent him by Major *Holms*, or his Relation; he lay then at *Mrs. Wroth's*, in *Brownlow-Street*.

Major *Lowick*, Mr. *Bauser*, Mr. *Holms*, he, *Durant*, and two others, met at the *Bull-Head-Tavern* in *Fleet-Street*; one of them was a young Man related to *Ernely*; they talk'd of the *Thoulon-Fleet*.

Langhorn serv'd in the Guards in *France*.

He met *Sir George* on the 2d *Sunday-Night* in *Bloomsbury-Square*; also he said, he hop'd we should see our Master shortly.

He saw *Counter* on *Monday*, who told him he would not see *Sir George* that Night, for he was taking Measures to secure himself.

Sir George had another Lodging in *Southampton-Buildings*, over-against the Arch; he lay there by the Name of *Brown*.

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When they met in *Southampton-Buildings*, he was to have met him at the *Griffin-Tavern*.

Counter and *Hungate* were with him.

Counter went away with *Sir George*; he went by the Name of *Romney* or *Rumsey*.

Hungate went by the Name of *Rogers*.

Sir George Barclay lodg'd at first near the *Red-Lyon* in *Drury-Lane*.

It is ten Months since he came from *St. Germain's*; the King told them, he could subsist them no longer.

He knew *Sir George* Abroad; and that King *James* had a great Esteem for him.

Sir George told him he came over about ten Days before he first saw him.

All he knew of the Duke of *Berwick's* being in Town, was by King, who had it from *Porter*.

He knew *Chernock* in *Ireland*, and had some general Discourses with him.

Sir George said, that those who mounted his Horses were to go and meet the King when he landed, and in the mean Time they must shift for themselves, adding, that People were pretty well inclined; and as soon as that should be done, he hop'd they would be of his Opinion.

Sir George Barclay succeeded *Sutherland*.

He made himself very publick towards the latter End; there were seven at a Time at his Lodgings on the last *Saturday*.

He

He saw *Chernock* in *France* when he past by, before the *La Hogue* Business.

He told him of his being last in *France*; that he went on a Message to King *James*, and that he came back in a Month.

He was brought into it, before he was acquainted with the Business, and being engag'd he went on upon a Punctilio of Honour, not liking that no Care was taken for a Retreat.

Sir *George* told him they were to be forty six Men; he rely'd upon Sir *George*, that he had considered all Things.

He understood by Sir *George*, that the King would land soon.



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Mr. GOODMAN's Information
on 24th April, 1696.

PAPER the ELEVENTH.

Copy. **A**Bout some two Years since or better, I understood that Colonel *Parker* was resident here, in order to engage several People for the Service of King *James*; and Captain *Porter* told me, he had a Mind to see me, which he accordingly did, where he told me that there would be an Invasion, and that King *James* would be restor'd; and that in Order to it, he had a Commission to levy Men, and grant out subordinate Commissions for a Regiment of Horse, and did ask if I would accept of one, which I accordingly did; he likewise said he would see me as often as he could, and that Captain *Porter* and I should receive Directions from Time to Time. Upon several Meetings, and having received my Commission, I understood what Captains were to be in the Regiment, which were, Captain *Porter*, Sir *William Perkins*, Mr. *Chernock*, Sir *Hugh Smithson*, Mr. *Higgins* and my self, and one Mr. *Widdrington*, Lieutnant Colonel: The Commissions were blank when they were delivered, and to be fill'd up by the Captain, &c. I then came acquainted with Mr. *Chernock* and Sir *William Perkins*, and by them and *Parker*, Captain *Porter* and I was inform'd that there was a great Body of Horse to be ready in the North,
but

but tho' I ask'd, yet they never nam'd any Person, to me, but said it was sufficient; I should receive Orders, and a Route to march to a Rendezvous upon Occasion; and indeed I did not much press it, because I did gather there was a great many concern'd; and at this Time Captain *Porter* and I took a House in the *Chase*, with Stables and Barns fit for holding Horses, and as a fit Place to meet upon Orders given us to march, which we then daily expected.

Sometime after this Colonel *Parker* was taken, and being committed to the *Tower*, he made his Escape; and after that I saw him, and then he told me he would be sure to correspond with me and *Porter*, and I should receive his Letters of Mr. *Chernock* or Mr. *Johnson*; and he accordingly did; and in his Letters he still gave us Hopes, and said he would certainly send us Notice to be in Readiness, Time enough for us to be serviceable to the Design of the Invasion.

The last Letters I received from *Parker* gave me Advice that he doubted not but the Cause would come to a Hearing at the *Easter* Term, and he thought he should write no more, but bring the Orders himself; upon which I went to *Chernock*, and he told me he did expect him here in a short Time, but always or most commonly in his Letters he told me for a Sign, when the *Thoulon-Fleet* should join the *Brest-Fleet*, I might certainly depend that we should be invaded here.

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During these Transactions Captain *Porter* complain'd that something he was sending to *Lancashire* had miscarried; he desired me to set by two Boxes, which I look'd not into, but supposed them to be Arms, and I did set them by for him. I had not bought any Arms, but had bespoke some of one *Pesy*, a Gunsmith, who said I should have them ready at a Weeks warning.

After *Parker's* having made his Escape, and getting into *France*, Mr. *Chernock* came to me, some time before the King's going to *Flanders*, and said, He had something to propose to me, and desired me to go along with him, which I did; and he brought me to one Mr. *Waw*, who said, He expected a Commission from King *James* to seize King *William*; accordingly we went to the Chocolate-House in St. *James's-street*, and after some Discourse about the Commission he said he expected, we appointed another Meeting at that Place, and adjourn'd from thence to my House in *Brownlow-street*, where were present Mr. *Chernock*, Mr. *Porter*, Mr. *Waw*, Major *Matthews*, and Mr. *Donelagh*; the Subject of the Discourse was about the surprizing and seizing the King as he came from *Richmond*; and after several Ways propos'd for that Purpose, I particularly ask'd, Suppose that the King were in our Power, what then? For we ought to have Regard to some End or other in such an Undertaking, for I was not willing to offer any thing to his Person. Mr. *Waw* said, We might have a Coach and carry him away; and he said, He

was

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was assured of a Fort to be deliver'd to him and put into his Hands, (to the best of my Remembrance it was *Deal*) which might give us Shelter while we might find Opportunity to carry him into *France* by Shipping. I must confess I did see very little Probability in what he said; neither did I believe that he would receive any such Commission as he said he expected; (for about two Years since, I remember I saw Sir *George Barclay* with Colonel *Fountaine*, and Mr. *Porter*; Sir *George* was then going over to *France*, and it was the only time that ever I saw him; and then Captain *Porter* and I did desire, that if King *James* desired any such thing as seizing of King *William*, he would send over a Commission and a Pardon withal, in Case of an Accident: Which Message Sir *George* carried over, and King *James* refus'd to send it.) However we had another Meeting after that, at my House, by which time he said he would shew us the Commission, and facilitate the Design: It was at a House behind the *Temple*, where the aforesaid Company met, and Mr. *Waw* brought with him one Mr. *Hayes*, who, he said, could furnish us with a Ship which should be ready to transport us after we had seiz'd the King; but upon Discourse with Mr. *Hayes*, we found that the Demands were so exorbitant, and not in possibility to be comply'd withal, and besides no Order or Commission being produced, we did desist then; for Captain *Porter*, Major *Mathews*, and I, did declare, we would not meddle without sight of the Commission.

After

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After this, Captain *Porter* and I talk'd of hiring a Vessel, and thought of sending *La Rue* and *Chernock* about it; we met at the *Fountain* by the *Temple-Gate*, and Sir *William Perkins* was there; and during the Time of our being there, one call'd Sir *William* out, and Sir *William* call'd out *Porter*, who came in and said, There was a Gentleman who could help us in this Affair; who he was I know not, I believe Captain *Porter* may, for I saw him not. But all this prov'd ineffectual, for the King went away suddenly, and no Commission ever came; and by Letters from *Fountain* from *France*, I understood King *James* was angry that they had us'd his Name to what he had not promis'd; and *Porter* and I wrote over, by his Order, the Truth of the whole Matter.

Some time after this, Captain *Porter*, the E--- of A-----, and Sir *John Friend*, Sir *William Perkins*, and Sir *John Fenwick*, and others, met about sending over some Proposals to King *James*, to expedite an Invasion; and likewise Captain *Porter* said, it was proper I should be there, for he had engaged for me: I told him, I would come; and at the *King's-Head* in *Leadenhall-street*, I found the Persons above nam'd, together with my Lord M-----, and one Mr. *Cook*; the Effect of their Consultation was the sending Mr. *Chernock* with a Message to this Purpose, That if the King of *France* could spare such a Number of Foot, and so many Dragoons, amounting to about 12 or 15000, or thereabouts in all; that then upon Notice given, that every particular Man there was to furnish
such

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such a Number of Horse, some more, some less, and be ready to succour the Forces from *France* when landed; Mr. *Chernock* went and return'd with a Refusal, that Forces could not be spared. Sir *John Friend* and my Lord *A-----* were of Opinion, that if King *James* would venture hither only with some small Retinue, he had Friends enough to appear for him without any Foreign Forces; but that was held in Doubt.

I used afterwards to see my Lord *A----* I always ask'd what News he heard; he said when he received any Orders I should know, for he having been in *France* (as he did not deny) I suppos'd him not to be ignorant of what was intended.

And to the better facilitating an Invasion, Sir *John Fenwick* used to send over a List of the Forces, and how they were quarter'd, what were in Garrison, and what otherways dispos'd of: He having made a Mistake in the Account, Colonel *Parker* did by Letter desire me to try if I could procure such an Account, which I accordingly did of one *Gisbon* a Clerk in the Office, and sent it over frequently.

As to the Escape of *Parker* out of the *Tower*, Sir *John Fenwick* when I ask'd him how he got away, and how much Money was given, he said two hundred Pounds promis'd, and three Hundred given; for when a Person came in, and told *Parker* he had brought him Liberty, and was to have 200*l.* he replied you shall have 300*l.* and it was made good to him afterwards,

Much

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Much about the same Time, I used now and then with Captain *Porter* to be with Sir *John Femwick*, and it was agreed, that if Colonel *Parker* should not bring us timely Orders, that what Forces we could bring, viz. *Porter* and I, we were to take Orders from Sir *John Femwick*; this we offered him, and he kindly accepted; and he then said, that he believ'd that most of my Lord *Oxford's* Regiment would go to King *James*: When I told Mr. *Paradise* had promised to bring seven or eight to me, and that Mr. *Aynsworth* was to bring me twenty, and *Parker* had said, if I made thirty it was sufficient for me. As to keeping of Horses Sir *John* said it was dangerous, and they would be certainly seiz'd, but the best Way was to have a List of what Horses were in and about *London* Stables, and seize them upon Occasion.

Captain *Porter* and I accordingly sent to view the Stables; I sent Mr. *Keylway*, and Captain *Porter* sent *Cranburn*, and they took an Account.

CARDELL GOODMAN.

Jurat 24th April, 1696.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Mr.

*Mr. SWEET's Deposition, 18th
March 1695.*

PAPER the TWELFTH.

Copy, **I** Have been conversant with Sir *William Perkins* these three Years, and have often been told by him, that King *James* would land in *England*, and that there was a Party ready to appear for him as soon as he did so, but never received so much Assurance of it, as I have since *Christmas* last; for at, or since that Time, he told me he had it from the King's own Hand, that he would come, and therefore made Preparations to meet him, for great Things were expected of him by King *James*; he also told me he had bought thirty Saddles, and other Furniture; and that his own Troop, as he call'd it, was composed of all old Soldiers, and that he had several Gentlemen that were good Horse-Officers which ride Volunteers with him.

About the Beginning of *January* I was at his House, and he came from *London* with one Captain *Scudamore*, and told me, he must be in *Warwick-shire* the next Day, and the Day following at *Leicester*, to meet some of the King's Friends: Some
of

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of them were to ride almost as many Miles as he did. I met him at his Return, when he told me, he had met the Gentlemen, and all Things went well, and that the *West* was as well inclined to King *James's* Interest as the *North*. I told him, I knew most of the *West-Country* Gentry, and asked him how they would meet, and if I could be serviceable in that, I would beg Leave of the Commissioners to see my Friends, and then to talk with them, or carry any Message to them; but he told me the Correspondence was settled, and the Place appointed, and that they were Men of Estates, and one of them a Lord's Brother.

About the 11th of *February* last, I received a Letter from Sir *William Perkins*, to come the next Day to *London*, which I did, and met him in *Norfolk-street*, desiring his Commands, for I must home that Night; He deferred telling me till he came back from meeting Sir *John* in the City; when he did come, he told me, there was something he had designed I should have done, but on second Thoughts, I was not a fit Person, by reason of my Family, but desired to call upon his Lady, and order three of his strongest Horses to be sent him the next Day, by *James*, his Groom. At my taking Leave, he desired me to come up again the next *Friday* Night, if he did not send me a Line to the contrary. I received none, and did go to the same Place, Sir *William* not being within, there was Mr. *Lea* and He Mr. *Chambers* to receive me: When he came in,
call'd

call'd me into his Chamber, and ask'd me, if I had left my Family in a good Condition; I told him I could not get in my Money, and they had but little; then he told me (in Passion) I might have staid at Home; I told him, I would be there Tomorrow Morning, but would call for his Commands in the Country, which I did; but he being gone out, left Orders for me to stay till Eleven of the Clock. I then again met Mr. *Chambers*, and went to the *Covent-Garden-Tavern*, and drank a Pint of Sack together: He told me he had been at *Kensington*, and that King *William* did not hunt that Day, saying, he kept as close as a Fox in his Hole, shewing me his Wounds, and saying, I want to revenge these on the Person that was the Cause of giving them to me, telling me, when he received them, and how; we din'd with Sir *William* and Mr. *Chernock*; and then I went Home, and do not remember that I saw Sir *William* from that time till the 20th, at *Watford*, and not since. Attested by

Jurat 18th March 1695.
Coram me Ja. Vernon.

ABRAHAM SWEETE.

JAMES

JAMES HUNT's *Information*
5th April, 1695.

PAPER the THIRTEENTH.

The Information of *James Hunt* of *St. Mary's*, in *Rumney-Marsh*, Yeoman.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, He hath lived Four Years or upwards in the House where he now dwells in *Rumney-Marsh*, which is about half a Mile from the Sea. That he hath been engaged in *French* Correspondencies about three Years. That at first it was only in the Way of private Trade. The first Man that propos'd it to him was Captain *William Berkenhead*, who was brought to this Informant by *Thomas Gibbs* of *Smeed*, who is since dead. What the said *Berkenhead* then proposed to this Informant, was to send now and then a Letter, and to receive some Goods on Shore, as also Persons that came from *France*, as there should be occasion in the way of Trade, which this Informant consented to.

This Informant saith, That either before that Time, or soon after, Sir *Adam Blaire* and *Berkenhead* came to this Informant's House as they land-
ed

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ed coming from *France*, and he furnished them with Horses to carry them towards *London*.

About that Time there was one *Simson Jones*, who went by the Name of *Roberts*, he brought over a great deal of Goods from *France*, there were near Eight Horse-Loads of Silks and Laces; there has been at other times Twenty or Thirty Horse-Loads of Goods brought over.

Row of Dover was the Factor for some of those Goods, as also was *Ricasse*, and *la Croix*, the one of *Sandwich*, the other of *Dover*. This Informant has heard, that the Goods were belonging to *Moisy*, *Midy*, *Gou- det*, and other *French* Merchants in *London*. He believes he has Letters at home from *Pigant* of *Ca- lais* that are directed to some Merchants to give them Account of their Goods; and this Informant has delivered himself some Goods to *Midy*, and received Money of him for the Carriage. *Deharsce*, another *French* Merchant, had five Pacquets of Silk in this Informant's Custody, which *Berkenhead* or his Nephew carried up.

About half a Year after that this Informant was acquainted with *Berkenhead*, the said *Berkenhead* propos'd to this Informant the bringing or sending to *London* from Time to Time some Pacquets of Letters which he would pay for; and this Informant did once or twice come up with Pacquets directed to *Berkenhead*. This Informant being unwilling to come up any more upon that Account, after that, *Berkenhead* either came himself for the

M

Let=

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Letters, or sent some Body. There was a young Gentleman, a Knight's Son, as *Berkenhead* told this Informant, who used to come frequently with the Letters from *London*, and brought up those that came from *France*: He generally walk'd it backward and forward. That Person has been dead about two Years, and *Berkenhead* has since employed his Nephew for carrying Letters, Persons, and Goods.

The Letters that were brought to this Informant, he buried till a Boat came from *France* to fetch them; and he did the same with the Letters that were brought over. This Informant saith, That the Letters came oftner from *London*, and in greater Pacquets than those that came from *France*: The Letters that went for *France* were at first made up like little Pacquets of *Lace*; the outside Covers were generally directed to *Pigaut*, and the President at *Calais*; and the Letters for *England* were under Cover, to *Berkenhead*, and one *Jackson*, who *Berkenhead* told this Informant, was a Priest.

One *Thomas*, a Servant of Mr. *Gumbleton* of *Sellinge*, was employed by *Berkenhead* in carrying these Letters.

The Letters were brought from *France*, and sent thither by Captain *Gill*, Master of a *French* Privateer, who sail'd with about 20 Men and Boys, and had been concerned in this Business as long as this Informant; and the said *Gill* likewise brought and carried the Passengers backwards and forwards.

The

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The said *Gill* came over very frequently of late, and brought several People.

The Persons that this Informant remembers to have gone backward and forward, since his being concerned, are as follows :

The E--- of A---, who went over to *France* about three Years ago. *Berkenhead* brought the said E--- to this Informant's House, where he staid near a Week, waiting for a Passage. Mr. *Berkenhead*, this Informant thinks, staid all the Time ; and this Informant and his Wife eat sometimes with the said Lord.

The E--- of A--- did not then own to this Informant who he was ; but when the Boat came, and he went off, he told this Informant he would be back again in 12 Days, or thereabout ; and he came over accordingly : He was a little indisposed when he came over, and staid 5 or 6 Hours at this Informant's House to refresh himself, and both this Informant and his Wife spoke with the said E--- who told this Informant, that he had been at *St. Germans*, and had seen King *James*, and the Queen, that he came immediately from *Bologne*, where he was with the Duke d' *Aumont*. *Berkenhead* told this Informant afterward, that it was the E- -- of A--- ; whereupon this Informant has been twice with the said E---. at his House in *Leicester-Fields*, and he waited upon the said E--- at *Tunbridge* the last Summer, meeting him there accidentally. The said

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E--- bid this Informant come to him to his Lodgings at *Southborough*, where he gave this Informant a Letter which he said was for the Queen, and desired this Informant to inclose it to *Pigant* at *Calais*, and to desire him that he would direct to the Queen; and this Informant had a Letter from *Pigant*, acknowledging the Receipt of the said Letter, which he received from the said E--- after *St. James's Tide*.

This Informant saith further, That the said E--- came down into *Runney-Marsh* about *June* or *July* last, that *Berkenhead* was with him. They came to this Informant's House, and enquired when he expected *Gill* over. They went that Night to *Harri-son* at *Dime-Church*, where the E--- lay two or three Nights. This Informant was to see him there, and his Wife saw him while the E--- was at their House; but *Gill* not coming over in that Time, the said E--- returned again to *London*, and *Berkenhead* with him.

The Lord *G---* went over about two Years ago; *Berkenhead* brought him to this Informant, and told him who he was; the said Lord lay at this Informant's two or three Nights, and then went over with *Gill*.

One Mr. *Viner* went over near the same Time; he was brought by *Berkenhead*, he staid some Time in *France*, and came back the same Way by the Name of *Maggot*.

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Sir *James Montgomery*, and Sir *Theophilus Oglethorpe* went over together; they lay at Mr. *Gumbleton's*, at *Sellinge*; they sent for this Informant to come to them, in the Name of *Roberts, alias Simson Jones*, and acquainting him with their Business to go over.

This Informant sent them word by his Boy, when the Boat was ready; and they went over accordingly about a Month or six Weeks after Sir *Theophilus Oglethorpe* returned from *France*; and this Informant furnish'd him with a Horse, to carry him part of his Way to *London*.

The two Soldiers went over some time after, that were assisting in Sir *James Montgomery's* Escape, as *Berkenhead* told this Informant, who brought them down at several times, and lodg'd them at *Harrison's* at *Dimechurch*.

Goff and *Belmere* went over about a Year and half ago. *Berkenhead* told this Informant, that *Goff* was a Priest. When they came back, they brought Goods over, as this Informant remembers, and *Goff* has had several Parcels of Goods come over since.

Sir *Andrew Forrester*, and his Son, went over about a Year ago, and they lay at *Harrison's*: Sir *Andrew* returned about half a Year since.

One *Pigott*, a Squint-Ey'd Man, came over about a Year and half ago.

One Dr. *Taylor*, a Doctor of Divinity, went over about a Year and half ago. This Informant believes he is still in *France*; another Gentleman went

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over with him, which this Informant does not know.

Crofsby went over for *France* since his Tryal, and *Berkenhead* brought him to this Informant.

Sir George Barclay, and Captain *Williamson* went over together about two Years ago ; they lay at *Harrison's* House.

This Informant has not seen *Sir George Barclay* till of late, that he came over some time in *January* last ; then came over with him Major *Holmes*, who had passed several times before, when my Lord *Melford* was Secretary.

There came over several Persons at that Time, some before, and some after *Sir George Barclay* : There was about Sixteen or Eighteen of them to the best of this Informant's Remembrance ; but this Informant doth not know the Names of any of them, except Colonel *Parker*, the Lord *Castlemain*, and Mr. *Brown*.

This Informant says, That about the Beginning of *February*, there came over a tall young Gentleman alone, who was particularly recommended to this Informant by *Pigant*. This Informant furnish'd the said Person with a Horse, and young *Berkenhead* conducted him till he met with his Uncle. The said Person returned again within a Week from *London*, and Captain *Berkenhead* with him. They came into *Tucker's* at *Sandway*, while this Informant and Colonel *Parker* was there, who was newly come from *France*, and was going to *London* ;
but

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but meeting with this Person, he returned with him to the Sea-side, and they both went over the same Night, the Boat having Orders to attend every Night till that Gentleman came. And this Informant, by what he has heard since, does believe the said Person might be the Duke of *Berwick*.

The Earl of *Clencarty* and Major-General *Dorington* went over likewise with Captain *Gill*, when they escaped from the *Tower*, as did also Colonel *Parker*, who were all brought down by *Berkenhead*.

Colonel *Feilding* came over about a Year ago.

Colonel *Fountain* has gone over backward and forward several Times, and hath brought Goods.

Berkenhead has gone over himself several times.

Mossy and *Bradshaw* went away together after the Riot at the *Savoy*.

An ancient Gentlewoman went over about a Year and half ago, she lay at *Harrison's*.

There was one Mrs. *Elliot* too that went over, who lay at *Harrison's*.

Colonel *Parker's* Wife, and one Mrs. *Mary*, who was concerned in *Crossby's* Business, went over; they also lay at *Harrison's*.

Mr. *Nosworthy* went for *France* about two Months ago, he came from *France* some considerable Time before:

Fur at 5. April 1696.

JAMES HUNT.

Coram me J. Vernon.

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JAMES HUNT's *Information,*
concerning Captain Berkenhead.

PAPER the FOURTEENTH.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, That it is about three Years he hath been concerned with Captain *William Berkenhead*; that the first time he came to his House, it was with Sir *Adam Blaire*, and he told him he came from *France*.

Some little time after that, he came to this Informant with *Thomas Gibbs*; and then *Berkenhead* propos'd to this Informant to be concerned in sending Letters and Goods to *France*, and in receiving them from thence; which this Informant consented to, and hath carried on that Business ever since, by Order of the said *Berkenhead*. This Informant hath received Letters from *France*, that were directed to *Berkenhead*, under the Names of *West, East, South, Fish*, and some other Names; and the Letters were either deliver'd to him, or sent to him by his Order, till *February* last.

This Informant hath likewise received Letters from the said *Berkenhead*, or by his Order, which were sent to *France*: Some of these Letters were directed by the Name of *North*, which *Berkenhead* told this Informant were for the Lord *Melfort*: Some of the Letters were directed to Mr. *Scot*, a
Mer

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Merchant, and those were for the President at *Calais*; some for *Abraham Stock*, Merchant; and those were for *Pigant* of *Calais*, as *Berkenhead* told this Informant. These Letters were sent backward and forward; sometimes once a Week, sometimes every Fortnight, and sometimes longer, as it might happen.

This Informant saith further, That he hath receiv'd several Parcels of Goods from *France*, that were on *Berkenhead's* Account, and he either received them from this Informant or sent for them, in order to their being carried to *London*.

This Informant saith further, That the Persons he remembers *Berkenhead* brought to him in order for their going for *France*, were first the E--- of A---, who went over about three Years ago, and *Berkenhead* brought him, who brought the said E--- likewise a second Time the last Summer, but he did not then go for *France*.

Berkenhead brought to this Informant the Lord G---- who went for *France*, as also Mr. *Viner*. The said *Berkenhead* brought one of Sir *James Montgomery's* Centinels, and sent the other.

He brought Sir *Andrew Forrester*, and his Son, about a Year ago; and one Dr. *Taylor* was brought or sent by *Berkenhead*, as also *Crofsby*.

He either brought or sent Sir *George Barclay*, and Captain *Williamson*, who went for *France* about two Years ago.

Berk-

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Berkenhead brought or sent Major *Holms* several times, about two Years ago.

When Colonel *Parker*, Lord *Clencarty*, and Major *Dorrington* escaped from the *Tower*, *Berkenhead* brought them down when they went for *France*.

Berkenhead conducted Colonel *Feilding* when he went to *France*, and either brought or sent *Mossy* and *Bradshaw*.

Berkenhead brought Mrs. *Elliot*, and the old Lady that was with her was brought by his Order.

Berkenhead brought Mrs. *Parker*, and Mrs. *Mary* that went for *France*; he likewise brought or sent Mr. *Nosworthy*, who went lately over.

Berkenhead brought the tall young Gentleman from *London*, in *February* last, when they met Colonel *Parker* at *Tucker's*, and went away together for *France*; and several others have been brought down to go for *France*; and others coming over from *France*, having been carried up to *London* by *Berkenhead*, or his Order, whose Names the Informant doth not know, or not remember.

This Informant saith further, That *Berkenhead* went for *France* immediately after the Queen's Death, and carried over the News of it; he was absent about a Month, and this Informant saw him at his Return; he went and came in *Gill's* Boat. He told this Informant, that he had been at *St. Germain's*, that he had seen the King, the Queen, and the Prince; and that he had been ill upon the Road.

This

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This Informant saith further, That *Berkenhead* went for *France* about *December* last, and this Informant saw him when he came back again. To the best of this Informant's Remembrance, some Persons came over with *Berkenhead*, and he believes *Sir George Barclay* and *Major Holms* were the Persons that came with him.

This Informant saith further, That *Berkenhead* went another time into *France*, besides what has been already mentioned, but he don't remember when it was.

This Informant saith further, That a little after the Discovery of the Plot, *Berkenhead* went to *Deal*, to take an account of the Ships that were there, which he sent for *France*, there being a Boat then come over; and he likewise sent at the same time a Printed List of the Names that were afterwards in the Proclamation, which List he had from this Informant, who received it from *London*.

JAMES HUNT.

Jurat 22. April 1696.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

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The Deposition of JAMES
E W B A N K S.

PAPER the FIFTEETH.

Copy. **T**HIS Deponent says, he has served Sir *William Perkins* as a Groom about a Year ; he was never with Sir *William Perkins* upon any Country Journey but once, and that was in *January* last ; they set out from Sir *William's* House at *Bushy* on a *Thursday*, and lay that Night at *Stony-Stratford*, and the next Day they came to *Liecester*, and staid there till *Sunday* Morning ; there were two Persons that met him there, one, as he remembers, was call'd Captain *Yarborough*, Son of Sir *Thomas Yarborough* ; the other was a Parson, but he don't remember to have heard his Name. One Captain *Scudamore* went with his Master to *Leicester*.

This Deponent saith, that Captain *Yarborough's* Boy told him, that the Parson and his Master were come from as far as *York* : The next Day being *Saturday*, his Master, Captain *Scudamore*, and Captain *Yarborough*, and the Parson, were above Stairs together, and several Persons came in and out to them, but he does not know who they were.

Sir *William* came from *Leicester* on *Sunday* Morning with Captain *Scudamore* ; and the other Two went away about the same time, and his Master was at Home again at *Bushy* on *Monday* Night.

That

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That on *St. Valentine's Day* last, the 14th of *February*, this Deponent came from *Bushy* to *London*, by his Master's Orders, and brought Three Horfes, which he set up at the *George Inn* in *Holbourn*; his Master had been in *London* some Time before.

As soon as this Deponent had set up his Horfes, he went to his Master's Lodgings at *Mrs. Carrant's* in *Norfolk-Street*; he once talk'd of going out of Town that Day, but afterwards he told him he would not go till next Morning, and that he should get the Horfes ready.

This Deponent came to his Master about Seven on *Saturday* Morning, and he bid him saddle the Horfes, for he intended to go Home that Day. This Deponent came to his Master again about Eleven the same Morning, and he gave him Leave to go see a Friend, and bid him be back at Four a Clock, for that he would go Home; but he did not go till *Monday*, and then *Mr. Holms* went with him. His Master came up again from *Bushy* the *Friday* following, the 21st of *February*, and came up then with four Horfes; *Abraham*, another of *Sir William's* Servants, riding up one: When they came to the *George Inn*, his Master bid him get his own Pad, and another Horfe which was as easy as that, ready by the next Morning Five a Clock, for two Gentlemen would then come to ride out: And the Horfes were accordingly provided, one being his Master's Pad, and the other he hired of the Ostler. His Master sent this Deponent a Note that Night to direct him

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to go very early next Morning to *Kensington*, and and enquire for Mr. *Brown*, belonging to the King's Confectionary or Kitchen, as well as he can remember, who lodg'd within a Door or two of the Way that turns up to the King's House; and he was to tell the said *Brown*, that he was Sir *William Perkins's* Servant, and came from the Gentleman that lodg'd at the Confectioner's over against *Grays-Inn*,

This Deponent was accordingly at *Kensington* about Eight in the Morning, and spoke with the said *Brown*, who bid him put his Horse up at the *Red-Lion*, and he would come to him; and the said *Brown* followed him immediately to the Inn, and bid him tell the Gentleman, he had nothing to send: But he took this Deponent's Almanack, and writ down in it, that he would be in Town himself within two Hours. This *Brown* was a thin Man, between thirty and forty Years old.

This Deponent went immediately from *Kensington* to the Confectioner's, and spoke with the Gentleman who lodg'd there, he thinks his Name was *Rogers*, he spoke broad *Scotch*, was an elderly Man, with a reddish Face, big Nose, and wide Mouth: This Deponent shew'd the Gentleman what was writ in his Almanack, and he tore it out. From thence this Deponent went to his Master at his Lodgings in *Norfolk-Street*: He told his Master what Message he had brought from *Kensington*, and that he had carried it to the Confectioner's. His Master ask'd what the Gentleman said; and this Deponent told him, he presented his Service to him, and if he wanted him, he would be

at

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at Home. Upon which his Master said, it was very well, and bid him go to the Inn, and stay there till he sent for him.

When this Deponent came back to the Inn, he found that the two Gentlemen who were to ride out the Horses, were come to the Inn, who accordingly rid out, and return'd again in two or three Hours Time.

This Deponent says, his Master sent for him about three or four a-Clock in the Afternoon, and sent him back to *Bushy* with his Fellow-Servant and three of the Horses: But his Master's Pad was to be left in Town; and he gave no Directions when this Deponent should come to him again; and he has not seen his Master since.

This Deponent says, that to each of the Horses they brought up, there was a Case of Pistols.

There were three other Horses at the *George Inn*, which Sir *William Perkins* told this Deponent were belonging to some Friends of his, and bid him when he was there take Care they had their Meat.

When Sir *William Perkins* came to Town at *St. Valentine-Tide*, he gave this Deponent from his Lodgings two Saddles to carry up to the Inn for two of those Horses, which he bid this Deponent take Care of.

This Deponent says, that Sir *William Perkins* came to the *George-Inn* on *Saturday* the 22d of *February* about twelve a-Clock, and Mr. *Lewis* came with him. Sir *William Perkins* ask'd this Deponent whether he had any more than a Couple of Saddles, and
he

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he saying he had not : Then Sir *William* told Mr. *Lewis*, he had had but twenty-two Saddles ; upon which Mr. *Lewis* answered, there must be a Mistake then, and he would see how it was, and go to the Places where he had bought them.

On *Monday* the 24th of *February* this Deponent received a Letter from his Master, directing him to carry a Letter to *Richard Evans* his Coachman in *Warwickshire*, by which he was order'd to dispose of the Goods he knew of, to lett the Grounds, and sell the two Mares. This Deponent delivered the said Letter to *Richard*, who thereupon fetch'd the Boxes from Mr. *Haywards*, which this Deponent and the said *Richard* carried thither about *Michaelmas* last ; and when the said Boxes were brought from Mr. *Hayward's*, this Deponent and the said *Richard* buried them in Sir *William Perkins's* Orchard. This Deponent has heard since, that those Boxes were filled with Arms, but he did not know it before, for his Master had bid *Richard* take Care of them, as *Richard's* Goods. And further this Deponent says not.

JAMES EW BANKES.

Jurat 23. Mar. 1695.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

The

*The Information of JONAS
CHAMBERLIN, taken up-
on Oath the 27th March, 1696.*

PAPER the SIXTEENTH.

Copy. **T**HE Examinant saith, he is Coachman to my Lord *Feversham*: That Mr. *Lewis*, his Gentleman of the Horse, came to this Informant some Days before the Plot was discovered, and askt if he knew where any Horses were to be hired for some Gentlemen to go fifteen or sixteen Miles out of Town; and the Informant directed him to *Mascall*, who lived in the same Yard, where Mr. *Lewis* hired two Horses the next Morning; but an Hour after, or some short Time, he sent the Postilion to let *Mascall* know that he should not use them; and afterwards Mr. *Lewis* sent the Informant to pay *Mascall*, as he did, and to take back the half Guinea.

The Examinant saith, That about the same Time six Horses were brought into my Lady *Arlington's* Stables, with a Note to the Informant to take Care of them, together with the Postilion and Helper. The same Evening, or the next Morning, Mr. *Lewis* came himself, and desired the Informant and Postilion to take Care of the said Horses, and that they should have something for their Pains. The Informant askt Mr. *Lewis* whose Horses they were, and he answered, a Friend of his; and they would not stay above a Night or two.

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The Examinant saith, That two Gentlemen whom he did not know, came twice to see the said Horfes, and there was a little Man with them, who, as he supposes, was a Servant: That two or three Days after, the same little Man came to the Postilion and Helper, and took out two of the Horfes, and brought them in again the same Evening; the said little Man gave Six-pence to a Boy to ride one of the Horfes, being unwilling to lead him.

The Horfes went out with Holsters, Saddles, but he does not remember he saw any Pistols.

The said Horfes were there about ten Days, except two or three, which were within three Days of their being brought in, carried to a Stable Mr. *Lewis* had at St. *James's*, as the Postilion told him, and where my Lord *Feversham's* Horfes stand: That afterwards three of the Horfes were seized in my Lady *Arlington's* Stables by the King's Officers.

This Examinant saith, my Lord *Feversham* keeps but two or three Horfes for his own Use, and two or three Horfes for Servants.

JONAS CHAMBERLIN.

Jurat. 27. Mar. 1696.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

The

**The Information of JOHN ALLEN,
taken upon Oath the 27th March,
1695.**

PAPER the SEVENTEENTH.

Copy. **T**HE Informant is Postilion to my Lord *Feversham*: That about seven or eight Days before the Discovery of the Plot, Mr. *Lewis* hir'd two Horses of *Mascall*, the Informant being present, and *Lewis* gave *Mascall* half a Guinea in Earnest.

Mr. *Lewis* saw another Horse in the *Farrier's* Stable in the same Yard, but did not hire him.

The Informant saith, That the same Day Mr. *Lewis* hired the two Horses of *Mascall*, he sent the Informant about eleven a-Clock to tell him he should not use them.

The Informant saith, That about eight or nine Days before the Plot was discovered, six Horses were brought to my Lady *Arlington's* Stables, and deliver'd to the Informant, for the Use of Mr. *Lewis*, who came himself the next Morning to the Stables, and bid the Informant take Care of them, and that he should have something for his Pains. That the same Evening these Horses first came in, the Informant and the Helper went with two of the said Horses to my Lord *Feversham's* Stable at St. *James's*, where he left them, and brought another back again; which he did by the Order of Mr. *Lewis*, as it was deliver'd

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to him by one of the Men that came in with the said Horfes. The same Man brought in a seventh Horfe, and afterwards carried away three, so there remain'd only three in my Lady *Arlington's* Stables. Mr. *Fosset* an Officer came to see them, and own'd them to be his; but before this, there came two Gentlemen to the Stables to see the Horfes: They had a little black Man with them, who afterwards came and rid out two of the Horfes for several Hours, and brought them again; he had the Horfes out by Mr. *Lewis's* Order.

My Lord *Feversham* keeps two Grooms and four or five Saddle-Horfes, and Mr. *Lewis* as many; he has known eight or nine Saddle-Horfes in the Stable at a Time, some being my Lord *Feversham's* Horfes, and the rest for the Account of Mr. *Lewis*.

The Examinant saith, that the three Horfes in my Lady *Arlington's* Stable were, after the Plot broke out, seiz'd and carried away by the King's Officers.

Mark of JOHN + ALLEN.

Jurat 27 March, 1696.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Infor-

Information of STEP. MASCALL,
of whom Mr. Lewis hired two
Horses, taken upon Oath, the
27th March, 1696.

PAPER the EIGHTEENTH.

Copy. **T**HIS Informant saith, that he liv'd at the
Time of the Discovery of the late hor-
rid Conspiracy in *Somerset-House-Yard*, kept a Vic-
tualling-House, and likewise letts Horses, and is since
remov'd to the *Strand*.

That about nine or ten Days before the said Dis-
covery, one *Jonas*, Coachman to my Lord *Fever-
sham*, came to the Examinant and told him my
Lord *Feversham's* Gentleman Mr. *Lewis*, would hire
two or three Horses of him, if he had any; the
Examinant said he had; and the next Morning, Mr.
Lewis came to the Examinant and hired two Horses
of him at eight Shillings a-Day for the two, during
the Time they were out, which as near as the Exa-
minant can remember, was on *Saturday* Morning.
Mr. *Lewis* ask'd the Examinant, what Furniture he
had for the said Horses; and not liking it, and saying
particularly he must have Curb-Bridles, undertook
to provide Furniture himself; and accordingly the
Examinant saw two or three Saddles with Holsters
and Bridles, brought by a young Lad into my
Lord *Feversham's* Stables. *Lewis* when he went a-
way, left half a Guinea in Earnest with the Exami-
nant, and said he would presently send for the Hor-
ses; but about two Hours after, sent Word that

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he should have no Occasion for them; but this Examinant said, he would be paid for the Day; and *Lewis* sent him six Shillings in Silver, the half Guinea being return'd to him. The Examinant ask'd *Lewis* when he hired the Horses, whither they were to go? *Lewis* answer'd, they were for Gentlemen to ride out. This Examinant ask'd him how long his Horses would be out; *Lewis* answered, he could not tell, it might be one Day, two, or three.

The Horses *Lewis* hir'd were about fourteen Hands high. The Examinant had a third Horse, but *Lewis* did not like him, being too little.

The Examinant heard that Mr. *Lewis* spake to *John Chip*, my Lord *Feversham's* Farrier, to hire more Horses; and he saw *Lewis* look upon another Horse that stood in *Chip's* Stable.

The Examinant saith, that a Day or two before, he saw six Horses in my Lord *Feversham's* Stable, which he heard were newly bought in *Smithfield*; and my Lord *Feversham's* Coachman told the Examinant these Horses were to go out with his Horses, but knew not whither; They imagin'd they might be for some Muster.

The Examinant saith, About a Week after, *Lewis*, or some Body from him, came to his Daughter, and would have hired the two Horses again; but when the Examinant came Home, he would not let him have them, having baffled him the Time before. The Examinant heard no more of him.

Jurat 27. Mar. 1696. Mark of *Stephen A. Mascall*,
Ceram me Ja. Vernon. Brice

BRICE BLAIR, 12 March
1695.

PAPER the NINETEENTH.

Copy. **T**HAT he was sent into *France* about the Time of the Siege of *Mons*, by Sir *John Cockram*, to acquaint King *James* he could do him some Service by his Interest among the Presbyterians. That he had Acquaintance with two leading Men in the South of *Scotland*, in each of the fifteen Counties and Bailiwicks, and could bring two leading Ministers and two Country-Gentlemen in each, who would be active, at least passive; that he wanted Money to go through the Work. He told him he had received 15 or 1800 *l.* at *London*, and that he had distributed it faithfully for the King's Service: He thinks he said the Money was sent for *Buchan* or *Caron*, who were then in the *Highlands*; but he had been perswaded to give 500 *l.* to Sir *James Montgomery* or his Brother: He desir'd now 3000 *l.* for the King's Service.

Ferguson told him two Years ago, that he help'd Sir *John Cockram* to the above-mention'd 1500 *l.* or 1800 *l.*

When he came into *France* upon this Message, he applied himself to Sir *Edward Hales*, and he deliver'd his Message to King *James*, who bid him thank Sir *John Cockram* for his Fidelity, but the Money could not be had: And King *James* gave

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him 20 *Lew's d' Ors* for his Journey. Sir *John Cockram* told him, if he had Bills for the Money, he should put them into a Tooth-Pick-Case, and thrust them up his Fundament, in Case of his being in Danger to be taken.

Sir *John Friend* brought him acquainted with *Ferguson*, who was very great with him.

He heard *Ferguson* say, He thank'd God he had Grace and Time to repent of the Villanies he had committed against King *Charles* and King *James*: When the King heard it, the Water stood in his Eyes for Joy. This was at *Symond's Tavern*.

Vernatti gave him a couple of *Ferguson's Books*, but he burnt them.

He heard *Ferguson* say, that he was engag'd with Sir *John Friend*, and was to go along with him; and Sir *John* told him he would bring in a great many Men.

He has been in Company with Sir *John Friend*, *Ferguson*, Sir *William Perkins*, Captain *Ridley*, who was formerly a Sea-Captain, *Richardson*, and *Edmonds*.

BRICE BLAIR.

Jurat 17 March 1695.

Coram me Ja, Vernon.

BRICE

Brice Blair, 13 March, 1696.

PAPER the TWENTIETH.

Worthy SIR,

COPY. I Expected more Accommodation to write, or else I had begun sooner this Day; for Yesterday I was detain'd 'till ten a-Clock at Night in a Crowd, before I could get to my Lodgings, in a cold Hole, without Fire, Table, or so much as a Chair. I will begin where I left off at my last Examination, and I have little more to speak of, but the Arguments us'd by Sir *John Cockram*, to induce King *James* to give him Money to go through with the Work: That if he did not give the Presbyterian Party in *Scotland* full Liberty of Conscience, he would wade through a Sea of Blood to get thither; and desired King *James* to remember, that it was that Party that cast the Ballance in the Civil Wars, when King *Charles* the First's Forces had even quite beat the Parliament's Armies out of the Field, and had drove most of them into their Garrisons. King *James* told me, That he was always for Liberty of Conscience, and desir'd me to acquaint Sir *John*, that he would let him have the same on the Word of a King. This I thought fit to acquaint the Council with, that such a Leading Man as Sir *John*, who owes the late King *James* his Life and Estate, might be narrowly look'd after upon any Apprehensions of Danger in that Country. There and then began my Misfortunes; for I have

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have never had a comfortable or happy Hour since, the late King giving me at that time a verbal Order to head what Men I could get in and about *London*, to mount upon any Occasion for his Service.

The Winter after I came from *France*, as I remember, I came to be acquainted with Sir *John Friend*; and after some considerable time and intimate Acquaintance, I told him the whole Business, and finding my self unable in the Purse, I offer'd him the Command, who by degrees accepted of the same, and was assisting to me in Money, but sparingly. I can say but little more of him, having made an ample Confession already; but that King *James* was very well pleas'd with my Proceeding in the Business, as I was inform'd by Mr. *Harrison*, who shew'd me several Letters both from my Lord *Melford*, and afterwards from Secretary *Caroll*, to that Effect: And that Sir *John Friend* did believe that Sir *John Femwick* would command the Faction he engaged with, and that Sir *John Friend* told me, which as I hope for Mercy I had forgot 'till this Morning, that my Lord *M-----*, and Colonel *Fountain* were to be of the same Party, if not Regiment, which *Fountain* himself confess'd to me afterward. As for Sir *John Femwick*, I never saw him but twice or three times in Company with Sir *John Friend*, and that was in *Jonathan's* Coffee-house; the last time he did not come into the Publick Room, but sent for Sir *John Friend* out into another, where they staid together about half an Hour, or thereabouts and that was a few Days before this horrid and bloody Villany broke out.

Though

Though I accumulate Guilt upon Guilt on my self, yet I shall be loath even for my own Safety, that any Man should speak more than my self, in what I know. I shall relate one Passage, which has hitherto escap'd my Memory : I think it was about three Years ago, I was walking up *High-Holbourn*, where one Mr. *Gray*, a Non-Swearer, was drinking with one, a New Convert, a little Man, who had been a Fellow in one of the Universities, I think *Oxford*, but his Name I cannot light on for my Heart's Blood. Mr. *Gray* call'd me in, desir'd me to sit down, and told me, That this Honest Gentleman, meaning the little Man, would be glad to be acquainted with me, and that he had been a great Sufferer for the Good Cause, as he termed it : To be short, our Acquaintance is contracted, I met him several times afterwards, and at last he told me, That that unhappy Man Mr. *Chernock*, desired to meet me where and when I would please to appoint him, where would be only Major *Lowick*, Mr. *Chernock* himself, and Mr. *Pendergrafs*, a very honest Gentleman, tho' I did not know him. We met, and after some Discourse they fell on that of seizing the King's Person, and of carrying him to *Deal*, where Mr. *Pendergrafs* told me, he had a Friend, an Officer of one of the Forts there, if I am not mistaken, where there should be a Boat ready to carry him over to *France* ; that he would undertake it with twelve Men well mounted and well arm'd ; and that two thousand Pounds would be requisite to carry on the Work : To which the little Man answer'd, I

know

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know of one. I was struck with Horreur and Amazement to think of the Extravagancy of the Thing, if there had been nothing else; and finding *Lowick* to be of the same Sentiments I was, I freely and briskly told the Company, That if I had known the Design they had, I would not have met them: That tho' it was but seizing the King's Person, it was equally Criminal as an Assassination, for his Person behoved to be in great Danger as well as his Liberty; and that I would never act any thing of that Nature, but dissuade all Mankind from all such desperate criminal Attempts. Well then, says he, let there be no more of it, I have done, and in a little time after went away: Whether it was this Mr. *Pendergrass*, or another, I cannot tell; but if it was he, he is a pretty tall black Man, if I am not mistaken, and formerly belong'd to the Temple. I was uneasy and came away with *Lowick*, where we walk'd by *Middle-Row* in *Holbourn*, for a considerable time, in the broad Street, it being fair Moon-light: I beg'd of him for God's sake, that he would never attempt any such Thing, which would undoubtedly be his Ruin, and that I might never hear any more of any thing of that Nature; for it was Misprision of Treason even to hear and not reveal it, which I would not do, as I told him, because I did not doubt but that we had already crush'd it to Death, being but an Embryo: He told me, He was clearly of my Opinion, and would take my Advice. But what Infernal Fury has inspir'd him since, I cannot tell; for Mr. *Bertram* told me, when I ask'd

ask'd him whether *Lowick* was concern'd or not, That he was very forward. This, I hope, will excuse me, though a Criminal, in not revealing it, because I nipp'd it in the Bud; for if I had not, the Villany at that time might have been attempted, if not perpetrated.

I never heard any more of that horrid Concern till last Year, *Mr. Bertram* came to give me a Visit at my Lodgings; and after we had set there a while, when he was going away, I told him, I would go out and walk with him a little; and so we went and walk'd a while in the *Charter-house-yard*; and after we had walk'd a while, we sat down, and amongst some other Discourse, he told me, That *Mr. Chernock* had engaged him with others to Assassinate the King, and that the Thing was to have been done last Spring on the Road, as he went to *Flanders*; and that it had been certainly attempted had they not receiv'd contrary Orders from *St. Germans*, the very Day before the King was to go. I told him, That I thank'd God that it had miscarried, and he more especially had Reason so to do, in Regard he was more nearly concern'd, and that it had prevented a great deal of Innocent Blood to be shed on both Sides; and beg'd of him for Christ his sake, never to think of any Thing of that Nature for the future, and that the Blessing of God could not go along with such Undertakings, or Words to that Effect. This he knows to be a Truth, and this I believe he neither can, or will deny.

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I promis'd to my Lord Keeper to give a more particular Account of that which should have been my own Troop, which I will not only do, but likewise an Account of the whole Regiment, as near as I can : And first as to Sir *John Friend*'s own Troop, one *Evans*, who had formerly been a Lieutenant, was to have been his Captain-Lieutenant, who was to have brought him in some Men ready mounted from about *Greenwich* and other Parts ; but I believe he was to seek for his other Officers, unless it was Colonel *Slaughter*, who had been Commissary-General of the Musters to King *James* in *Ireland*, before his Defeat of the *Boyne*, and afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel to my Lord *Maccarty*'s Regiment of Foot. Sir *John Friend* told me, after he was acquainted with this Gentleman, of whom he was very fond, that he would bring him ten Horses unmounted, and that Sir *John* had a good mind to make two Lieutenant-Colonels, whereof he was to be one, which I grumbled at ; and when he found that, he told me, That Colonel *Slaughter* should command the Non-Swearing Parsons, whereof he believ'd he had a whole Troop. I heard Captain *Ridly* likewise say, That he could bring him in a Troop ; but I never heard it from Sir *John*.

I am interrupted here by the Master of the Prison, desiring me to finish my Confession by Six of the Clock at furthest ; which is impossible for me to do, Sir, in regard I began this Day after twelve of the Clock, being kept in a Crowd Yesterday all Day,

not

Paper the Twenty First. 178

not having Liberty to go to my sorry Lodging 'till ten of the Clock, at what time I wrote a Letter to Mr. Gibbons, at a cold broken Window, having neither Seat to sit on, nor Table to write on; so that I thought the best Way was to send you what I have done at present, and to beg Time and some better Accommodation for the rest; for I have a great deal more to say, which I bring down to this present Conspiracy, as far as I know, and no further. This, I hope, Dear Sir, will excuse me to the most Honourable Board: *And so I am,*

Worthy Sir,

*From the Gatehouse,
March 13th. 1695.*

Your most Affectionate

and most Faithful Servant,

*Furat 17 March, 1695.
Coram me Ja. Vernon.*

B. BLAIR.

Mr. Blair, 14 March, 1695.

PAPER the TWENTY FIRST.

Honoured SIR,

Copy. I Left off, as I remember, near to where I spoke of Colonel *Slaughter*, that he was to command the Non-Swearing Clergy, because he was a Minister's Son himself; I shall now come to my own Troop, that Fool's Paradise of mine, and tell you, that I omitted one *Wrae*, who keeps a Tobacco and Brandy-Shop in *Moorfields*, and was to be my
Quarter-

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Quarter-Master, who promis'd to bring me in a considerable Number; whereof a great many could mount themselves; for I did not trust my self to every individual Person, but to those who I found to be Men of the greatest Acquaintance and Influence amongst the *Jacks*: But all this was on King *James's* Landing; and I write this more upon the Account to let the King and Government know his Friends from his active Enemies, than for any other Reason, I being but one Witness against them. As to Captain *Fisher's* Troop, I leave that to his own Relation, for he was to have been our Eldest Captain; and if his Memory fail him, I will endeavour to refresh it, if requir'd; only by the by, I have made both him and *Bertram* so sick of the Villany, that they were at that time ready to vomit it up, if they have not actually done it, for I hear they are both in Custody. This I speak without Reflection, for I have very great Hopes that both those Men wish me well; but if they have spoke more than the Truth of me, God forgive them, for I heartily do. I must go back a little to my own Troop. There is one *Kelly* at the *Red-Lion* in *Smithfield*, promis'd me thirty-five *Irish* Men, all ready mounted, upon a Descent; and there was one Captain *Kelly* to have commanded them. There was one Captain *Hopkins* and one *Stringer* promis'd to bring in a Troop: I was promis'd likewise by one *Ricfone* to bring in all or most of the Jacobite Bailiffs and their Followers about Town: I was promis'd likewise by one *Jenines* at the *Three Crickets* in

in *Crooked-lane*, twenty Men ready mounted, and he was to be a Lieutenant, having been a Life-Guard-Man formerly, with several others, whom Time will not permit me to mention at present, and which I shall do with all Candour and Truth, if commanded by the most Honourable Board.

Mr. *Hall*, alias *Cole*, told me, That one Mr. Lieutenant *Linn* was to be his Lieutenant; one *Robin Ainsworth* in *Southwark* his Cornet, and *Gillibrand* his Quarter-Master: But this puts me in mind of something of Consequence; as Mr. *Fisher* and I were discoursing of going to *France*, for he pres'd me very much last Summer so to do, and that he could do King *James* considerable Service by going thither, in which he knows I was very cool, for I had been there too much already. I enquir'd of this Gentleman, Mr. *Hall*, which was the best, safest, and readiest Way of going thither; and he told me, that after King *James's* own Boat was discover'd, or like to be discover'd, if I remember aright, there was a *French* Boat went and came frequently from *Calais* to *Deal*, in the dead Time of the dark Nights, with as much Safety as to go from *London* to *Gravesend*.

There is one Mr. *Pits* a Non-Swearing Parson, who since this Revolution us'd sometimes to live at *Norwich*, and sometimes at *London*, with whom I contracted an intimate Acquaintance ever since; soon after the Business of *La Hogue*, he told me, That the City of *Norwich* was very Loyal to King *James*, as he term'd it: He is now gone to *Long-Melford*, and practices Physick there, by the Name of Dr. *Thomp-*

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son ; whilst in Town here, amongst other Discourse he told me, That if he had his Charges born and Credentials from some Persons of Quality here, who were King *James's* Friends, he could do him considerable Service ; and did give me the List of several considerable Gentlemen, as well in the County of *Suffolk* as *Norfolk*, who would, as he said, prove very zealous for King *James's* Service, either in their Persons or Purfes, or both ; and they are these,

* * * * *

* * * * *

a great Knot of Jacobite Gentry near to *Lin.* * *

* * * * * a Knot in or near *Long-*

Melford, a Knot of Jacobite Gentry near *Bury*. I

should have forgot almost all their Names, if I had not luckily taken their Names in an old Almanack I had about me, and which I have kept still. A while after,

this *Wrae* went into those Parts with one Mr. *Sincho*, a

Hofier near to *Aldgate*, about Business of Trade, and

I desir'd them to make particular Enquiry of the

Truth of Mr. *Pir's* Relation, as near as their own

Safeness would permit them. They met accidentally

with one Dr. *Buck* at *Ipswich*, if I am not mistaken,

who went with them to *Norwich*, where he made

them acquainted with several of the Jacobites, parti-

cularly with my Lord of *Yarmouth's* Chaplain ; who

not only affirm'd the Truth of Mr. *Pir's* Relation,

but nam'd forty Gentlemen more, as they told me, not

only in *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*, but likewise in *Lincolnshire*

and the Isle of *Ely* ; and Mr. *Wrae* told me upon his

Return, that he found a great many Jacobites where-

ever

ever he travelled, and was inform'd by some of them, not only of the meaner but better sort of Gentry. Upon which I went to Mr. *Harrison*, and told him the whole Business, and that if he thought fit, I would undertake the Business, having Credentials for Mr. *Pit* and my self. I propos'd the late Bishop of *Norwich*, and he told me he would discourse him about him. The next Time I saw him, he told me he had been with the Bishop, and with my Lord *M----*, but that the late Bishop told him, That the E--- of *Y-----*, was the fittest Man to treat with in that Affair. Mr. *Harrison* told me, there would be no great Matter done in that Business, in Regard that he thought there were Men of Quality in most Counties to do for King *James's* Interest; and that to his certain Knowledge as to *Suffolk*, there was one there already, who was a Soldier and had a Commission from King *James* to raise a Regiment of Horse, as Occasion should serve: So I laid aside all Thoughts of the Business more, 'till the last Time he sent for me, and which was the last Time I saw him, and then he told me, he had shewn the List to my Lord *Y-----*, that my Lord *Y-----* knew all those honest Gentlemen very well, and would be glad to see me sometime about *Piget-Ally* in the Evening, and nam'd a House, but I protest before God I forgot: I told him, being glad to be gone, that I could not meet him at that Place To-morrow, being to bring Captain *Fisher* the next Day, which was on a *Friday* the Week preceeding the Proclamation, to Sir *John Friend* at his Brew-house in the *Minories*; so that I could

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not conveniently wait on my Lord 'till the *Monday* following, and that Day I saw my Name in the Paper that came out. We mis'd of Sir *John Friend* on the *Friday*, as Mr. *Fisher* well knows, whether he would have reveal'd any thing to us, I cannot tell.

As for that Mr. *Picquet*, I have seen him here at *London* about half a Year after the Revolution, in Company of Mr. *Nosworthy* and Sir *Eneas, Mc. Fearson*, I saw him accidentally in the Coach I was to go in from *Paris* to *St. Germain*. He asked me, If I would enquire for any Person? To be short, he provided a Lodging for me, and brought me to the Sight of Sir *Edward Hales*: He provided Lodgings for me at *Paris* after I left *St. Germain*; and if I be not mistaken, he told me it was by the King's Orders; for he told me who sent me, and what my Business was; he has been three times there and back again since. He is a Man of very good Sense, Language and Learning, and I believe he knows as much of King *James's* Affairs, as any Man of his Quality and Age in *England*; for he knows and is intimate with most of King *James's* Friends here of any Consideration, from the Highest to the Lowest; only Sir *John Friend* has hated him of late, and for this Reason; At the Time of Colonel *Parker's* Escape out of the *Tower*, Mr. *Harrison* came to Sir *John*, and importuned him to lend him 100 *l.* to facilitate *Parker's* Escape, for otherwise he told him it could not be effected, and promised him upon his Honour, to see him repaid, but that qua. Priest, he could not give Bond; but Mr. *Picquet* being

being to go over about that Time, told him, that he would see him paid, and that when he returned, Sir *John's* Money should be returned to him, The Money he received at *St. Germains*, but never paid Sir *John* at his Return; which if my Memory fail me not, was about last *Christmas* was a Year, except what I got of it. For I expending Money on his Account, was very needy, and begg'd Sir *John* to help me to some, who absolutely refused me, unless I could get 20 *l.* from Mr. *Picquet*, and he would allow it; which I got with a great deal of Difficulty, and afterwards 20 *l.* more, both which I had paid at seven or eight Payments, by the Means of Mr. *Harrison* and my Importunity, occasioned by my Wants.

Dear, Sir, I am almost spent with Grief, Cold, and Want, for tho' I had Money, yet I can get nothing to me; I have contracted a great Cold, with a Pain in my Head and Eyes, so that I write in a great deal of Misery, when I am forced to keep down my Head to my broken Stool; it now begins to grow dark, especially in my Apartment, and near the Time I promised to finish my Confession; if possible, I shall To-morrow, or when commanded, if God permit me Life and Health; and consider, Sir, that I am forced sometimes, to think an Hour before I can write a Line; so that I hope the most honourable Board will pardon me. In the mean while, I am,

From the Gate-house,

March, 96.

Jurat 17. March 1695.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Worthy Sir,

*Your most Faithful, and
most humble Servant,*

O 3 BR. BLAIRE.

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BRICE BLAIR, 15 March 1695.

PAPER the TWENTY SECOND.

HONOURED SIR,

Copy. **A**FTER I had left *Somerset-house*, for
I was glad to be gone, as I wrote to
you before, having some Apprehensions of Dan-
ger to my own Person, in those narrow and dark
Apartments of Father *James's*; as I was going to
my own Lodgings, I begun to consider with Amaze-
ment, what Mr. *Harrison* had told concerning King
James's Order, and what to do in the Business,
how to reveal it, and not be known, and that I
might not come to be an Evidence: At last I thought
to do it by a Letter, without a Name, remembering
the Gun-Powder-Plot, how it came to be discovered,
and for my own Preservation in Case of After-
claps, to have taken an exact Copy of the Letter, and
to have preserved it carefully; would to God I
had continued in that Resolution, I might then have
been happy, whereas now I am miserable, without
God's Mercy and the King's. As to the Order, I
desired Mr. *Fisher*, when I met him the next Day,
to make particular Enquiry after it, which I thought
might prove to my Advantage, upon any future
Danger, which I then plainly did foresee; and told
him, Now, dear *Fisher*, says I, if you should come
to be examined upon this Account, you will not de-
ny, but I have had an Abhorrence of this damn'd
Bus

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Business all along: Ay, that I will, says he again, readily, for I can do it with a good Conscience, or Words to that Effect. This is Truth. So help me God.

I came to be acquainted with Captain *Wallbank*, by the Means of Mr. *Clark*, the *Apothecary* in *Watling-street*. I had seen him formerly at Mr. *Barnsley's Coffee-House*, and at the *Hole in the Wall* in *Baldwin's-Gardens*, but never had any particular Discourse with him, till such time as Mr. *Clark* told me, that the same *Wallbank* and Captain *Courteney* desired to see me. I was not fond of their Company, because *Wallbank* had the Repute of an Atheist, especially when in Drink: I thought it but common Civility to give him a Meeting, which I did; I found him all in the Air, *Wallbank* I mean, for the other spoke never a Word that I could lay hold on, and I take him to be a close-thinking Man; as for the other, he was all in the Clouds, telling, that there were a great many Gentlemen in the Countries where he had been, would take Arms for King *James*, upon Occasion. Then they begun to hard drinking. I was uneasy, pretended earnest Business to be gone, and so left them; but there was not one Word of either assassinating, or seizing the King, as I hope for Salvation and Mercy; only I answered to one, who ask'd me, but I cannot remember for my Life who it was that ask'd me, if I thought *Courteney* and *Wallbank* were in that Conspiracy; I told them, I knew not, but was afraid they were, in Regard I had heard a Whispering, that they were embark'd with Captain *Stow*.

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This is, *Worthy Sir*, all I can say of the Truth, and no more, nor no less. If my Memory has fail'd me in any material Point, I shall candidly confess it if a Truth, or constantly deny any Thing laid to my Charge that's False, to my last Breath: And whereas the Honourable Mr. Secretary *Trumball* was pleased to say, that I could remember Times and Places of several Years ago, but could not that of fresher Date, and that therefore my Confession was not candid; but, Sir, I could not forget the Siege of *Mons*, so famous over all *Christendom*, and that a Man might more easily remember that, than something done but last Week, if I had not kept a constant Journal, which I never thought on.

As Phlebotomy is absolutely necessary in the Politick, as the natural Body, yet it is every honest Man's Policy, as well as Goodness, to mix Justice with Mercy, and to pull out the lesser Offenders from the greater Criminals; for which Reason I humbly implore his Majesty's Mercy, and earnestly beg of the most honourable Board to intercede for me; and if I be so happy as to owe the King a Life, I will most willingly spend the rest of my Days in his Service, and spend my best Blood to preserve his sacred Person in any eminent Danger. It is my Interest, as well as Duty and Gratitude so to do, for I could never expect either Mercy or Favour from King *James*, if ever he should return; and truly, Sir, though I may not be credited, this bloody Villany has very much stagger'd me, both in my former Loyalty, that I thought once that in Duty I owed him,

him, as in my Affection ; and I believe, that this bloody and barbarous Villany will gain Thousands of *Jacobites* to be the King's Friends, who were formerly his mortal Enemies. Whereof, by all that's Good, I shall make one, and not only that, but gain him as many Friends as possible I can, if it please God and the King, to pardon me, and I am sure I can do it with a great many, and even with those who dare defend his Person and Government with their Swords in their Hands.

Men, Sir, who know my Temper, will hardly be induced to believe, that I can be guilty of such a bloody and hellish Crime ; Men, I mean, Sir, of all Perswasions, as well Protestants as *Papists*, *Williamites* and *Jacobites*, as in some measure will appear by a Gentleman's Discourse, who came to the Hatch of the Gate, to give me a Visit ; for he was not permitted to enter, but stood at the Hatch before the two Turnkeys. That as to the Assassination only, he believed me to have as great Abhorrence as any Man in the Nation ; this was out of the Mouth of not only a Protestant, but of a steady and zealous Friend to the Government, and one with whom I have had a great many Debates, even to Heat formerly.

And now, Sir, I am not only innocent of the Assassination, by what I have already declared, but likewise, I am also ignorant of this sudden Invasion, King *James's* being at *Calais*, or *Dunkirk* ; but what was talk'd on a good while ago of *Du Bart's* going to the *Northwards* with Fourscore Transport Ships, as also of the Duke of *Berwick's* being in
Town,

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Town, till such time as I did read it in the first Paper; I am ignorant, I say, Sir, or else let my Soul never inherit the Kingdom of Heaven; and this I write without any manner of Equivocation, or mental Reservation, for these are but Lies, and God is the God of Truth. It were a Folly for me, even to Madness, to devour an Ox, and choak my self with the Rump; after I had thrown my self at the Feet of the King's Mercy, and had comfortable Hopes given me to obtain his Pardon, by a full, candid, and genuine Confession: For I have declared but too much to take away my Life besides, without his Majesty's most gracious Pardon, a great Part of which, could never in humane Probability, have been proved against me: But when the most honourable Board considers, which I humbly beg of them to do, for Christ's Sake, how industriously the Business was concealed from me, there will be no Mystery in the Thing.

And that it was carefully concealed from me, may evidently appear by Captain *Fisher's* telling me, that Sir *George Barclay* told him, that though I was a Man of Honour, as he term'd it, and brave enough, yet I was timorous, and was positively enjoined, not to acquaint me with any Thing that pass'd among them. This Timorousness of mine was nothing else, but that they knew I abhorred their Villanies, and were afraid I might have reveal'd them. This I'll take the Blessed Sacrament on; and if I should on that which is false, I should certainly be damn'd. This I hope Mr. *Fisher* will not deny, and if he
does,

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does, he is the most perfidious Wretch that ever God and Nature framed.

I shall now come to close, Sir, for God knows I am very ill and faint, and scarce able to write any more, and only acquaint you, that my Information was true to the Gentleman, who took me up, my Lord *Cuts's* Adjutant, for the same Notice was given to Mr. *Gibbons* thereof, and to a Third Person also; and though he was not taken, yet it was an evident Demonstration of the Sincerity of my Intentions.

*From the Gatehouse,
Sunday, about 5 of
the Clock in the Af-
ternoon, March, 96.
Furat 17 March, 1695.
Coram me Ja. Vernon.*

*Worthy Sir,
Your most Affectionate and
most Obedient Servant.*

BR. BLAIRE.

*Mr. BLAIR's Information of the 16th of
March, 1695.*

PAPER the TWENTY THIRD.

Copy. **H**E saith, That towards the latter End of *January* last, as near as he can remember, he dined with Sir *John Friend*, at the *Castle-Victualling-House*, in the *Alley*, on the *West-End* of the *Old-Exchange* in *London*, and Captain *Ridly* was there. Captain *Ridly* told this Examinant, That about ten Days before, a *Roman Catholick Gentleman*, whom he did not name, was sent over to King *James*,
and

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and that he believed he would bring over the last Orders. Sir *John Friend* said, he knew of it, and that was all he heard him say. *Ridly* said, It was a Gentleman of 60 Years of Age that went over, and that he was a very sensible Man.

About a Week after that Meeting, this Examinant met Sir *John Friend* at *Jonathan's Coffee-House*; and Sir *John Friend* having an Occasion of going to *Holbourn*, took this Examinant with him in his Coach, as far as *St. Martins-le-Grand*; and while they were in the Coach, Sir *John Friend* talk'd to this Examinant about the *Thoulon* Fleet's coming about, as also about his Regiment; and he told this Examinant, that it behoved them to be good Husbands, for if the Invasion, that was expected at the coming about of that Fleet, should miscarry, he should not have Money enough to carry on his Trade; That he, Sir *John Friend*, would only mount some poor Officers, who could not mount themselves: That when the *Thoulon* Fleet should come about, he and a great many others would be taken up, if found, therefore he design'd to abscond; but he, this Examinant, might skulk about, and get Men prepared as well as he could. This Examinant answered, it would be impossible, for no Body then durst buy a pair of Pistols; and Sir *John Friend* added, that till the *Brest* and *Thoulon* Fleet were joined, he would not put his Foot in the Stirrup. He told this Examinant further, That he had a great many back Friends about him, but he believed it was through Emulation, or Envy; and that if he, this Examinant, carried

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ried himself warily, he (*Sir John Friend*) would be as good as his Word to him; by which he understood he should not be put by being Lieutenant-Colonel to his Regiment.

Bertram brought this Examinant acquainted with *Mr. Fisher* three Years ago, or more; he was very shy of him at first, and it was half a Year before he disclos'd himself to him; and it was half a Year more before he brought him to *Sir John Friend*: He don't know that *Fisher* has seen *Sir John Friend* for near these two Years past, but he came several times of late to this Examinant, to bring him to *Sir John Friend*, and a Meeting was appointed on the *Friday* before the Proclamation came out, but they miss'd of one another.

This Examinant saith further, That *Bertram* told him, that *Chernock* and *Porter* made themselves sure of a great many of the Earl of *Oxford's* Regiment. This Examinant came accidentally into the Company of one of them, whose Name is *Bale*, an *Irish* Man, and that was about the Beginning of this Winter. This Examinant told him, by way of Jest, that he heard there were a great many Jacobites in that Regiment: Whose Answer was, He believed a great many of the old Men were Jacobites in their Hearts; but *Bale* by his Discourse did not give him the least Cause to suspect he was one. This Examinant believes this *Bale* is of *Sir Francis Compton's* Troop.

This Examinant saith, That about *Christmas* last was twelve Month, *Pigott* came over from *France*, and he was then to have paid the 100 l. that *Sir John Friend* laid

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laid down for *Parker's* Escape ; either Sir *John Friend* or *Harrison*, told this Examinant, that *Pigot* had receiv'd at *St. Germain's* 80 *l.* in Money, and 20 *l.* by a Bill, which made up the 100 *l.* that was to be paid to Sir *John Friend* about the Spring following. Sir *John Friend* told this Examinant, that he believ'd he was cheated by that Rascal *Pigot*, and he knew not how to help himself, for he durst not ask him for the Money.

This Examinant saith further, That Sir *John Friend* had furnished him with several small Sums of Money, at several times, to drink with those he had engag'd into the Regiment ; and this Examinant having spent more Money on that Account than ever he had receiv'd from Sir *John Friend*, this Examinant spoke to him, to the best of his Remembrance, about *May* or *June* last, and told him, that he had beggar'd himself to do King *James* and him Service. Sir *John Friend's* Answer was, He would give him no more Money out of his Pocket, but if he could make Interest with Mr. *Harrison*, who was oblig'd in Honour to pay him the 100 *l.* he would assign this Examinant 20 *l.* of it. Thereupon this Examinant went the next Day to Mr. *Harrison*, insisting to have an Order for the Payment of the Money, either under Sir *John Friend's* Hand, or by Word of Mouth ; but Sir *John Friend* said, they should have nothing under his Hand. This Examinant brought them together, and in his Hearing Sir *John Friend* told Mr. *Harrison*, he was oblig'd in Honour to see him paid his Money ; and if Mr. *Harrison* would advance 20 *l.*

to this Examinant, he, Sir *John Friend*, would allow it out of the Money to be paid him by *Pigot*. *Harrison* answer'd, He was not worth the Money, but he would use his utmost Endeavours to procure it; and accordingly the said *Harrison* paid this Examinant thirteen Guineas and ten Shillings in Silver, which made up the 20 *l.* and *Harrison* told this Examinant he received the Sum from *Pigot*.

A little after *Michaelmas* last, this Examinant being ill, desired Sir *John Friend* to come to him, who accordingly came, and a few Days after he writ to him for some more Money; Sir *John Friend* appointed him to come the next Day to *Jonathan's Coffee-house*; and after some Huffs and Checks, he told this Examinant, If by Mr. *Harrison's* Means he could get another 20 *l.* from *Pigot*, on Account of the 100 *l.* he would grant it. This Examinant acquainted Mr. *Harrison* therewith, who said he would speak to Sir *John Friend*; and the next Time this Examinant saw Mr. *Harrison*, he told him Sir *John Friend* had granted the Order, and accordingly this Examinant received 15 *l.* of the said 20 *l.* by the Hands of Mr. *Harrison*, at several Payments, and 5 *l.* part of the said 20 *l.* was paid to this Examinant by Mr. *Pigot* at *Jonathans's-Coffee-House*, Sir *John Friend* being present.

This Examinant saith, That *Richardson* a Merchant upon *Tower-Hill*, was the most intimate with Sir *John Friend*. This Examinant has dined at the *Old King's Head* about Three Months ago with Sir *John Friend*,
Friend,

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Friend, Sir William Perkins, Richardson and Chernock;
but then there were only general Discourses.

Jurat 17. March, 1659.

Coram me Ja. Vernon.

Worthy *S I R*;

Copy. **I** Received yours very ill; being a-Bed ever
since I saw you; I ask'd Captain *Kelly*, meet-
ing him accidentally in the *Minories* about three
Months ago, as I remember; we went in and drank
two Pots of Drink, and I propos'd to him the
Command of his Country-Men, and he said he
would command them willingly. I had spoke se-
veral Times of him to the other *Kelly*, but never to
himself before that Time. As for *Stringer* I spoke
to him my self, and propos'd *Hopkins* to be his
Captain, with whom he was intimate; but when I
spoke to *Hopkins* my self, when he thought it time
he would endeavour to do it, but he thought Things
were not ripe enough to that Purpose: This was last
Summer about the Siege of *Namur*. As for *Ains-*
worth, I spoke to him three Years ago, but finding
him engag'd to Mr. *Cole* as Cornet, I never spoke any
Thing to him since; and this was about the Time I
brought Mr. *Cole* to Sir *John Friend*. I am ready
to Faint.

I am

March 17. 1696.

Yours till Death,

Br. Blair.

FH

MVSEVM IN N I S.
BRITANNICVM